

Dunedin Causeway and Coastal Waterway Committee

August 13th, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:02.

Members present: John Hoopes, Jeffric Gazlay, Frank Vanore, Glen Steinke, Jill Gunn, Anita Apley, Jim Runyon.

Absent: Dennis Alspaugh, Kathleen Sands Martin

City Staff: Lanie Sheets

Guests: Deputy Aaron Berezney, Sandie Selvaggio, Frances Sharp, Scott Sallyards. Jon Harmony, Kim Begay.

Minutes from June meeting approved.

1- Causeway Report- Nothing to report from Lanie. John reports grading maintenance by County doesn't seem like much of a difference in condition on access roads. Potholes and ruts remain in addition to severe erosion on north side across from High and Dry. John asked that Lanie provide a contact to FLDOT to receive updates on process of access road maintenance. Parks Department is waiting for new agreement between the City and the County in determining maintenance responsibilities.

2-Concessions – Dog water fountain is leaking. Glenn had previously donated this and looks for City to maintain. City filled huge erosion hole effectively in roadway, south of bathrooms. After first rain the sediment settled like concrete.

3- Storm Water: Jill reports July meeting centered on Comprehensive plan. Homeowners and associations should be educating residents on responsibilities of living on the water. City is looking to implement three levels of escalating fines by residents and business for illicit discharge. Enforcement will be a focus. Sept. 17th at city hall will be a workshop for the before mentioned. Next meeting will be in September.

4- Boating report- Introduced Scott Sallyards as a potential member.

5- CEQ Report: Jeffric discussed opportunities for residents to volunteer for Friends of Hammock. Reported that new data shows that adding solar power to City could help save 40% on estimated 16M kilowatt hours currently used per year.

6- Ad Hoc Bridge Report – N/A

Old Business:

1-Draft Comprehensive plan discussion section 4 and 5. Information provided to Frances Sharp.

2-Committee reviewed videos of standard low (from 7/29/19) and high (from 7/16/19) tides on Northeast (and Southeast for comparison) end of causeway. No sea grass damage was observed in the videos presented. From a safety standpoint, based on information previously provided and the fact that no calls from FWC or Sheriff's department for safety related issues have been recorded in this area, the committee did not see any adverse effects from both boats and swimmers utilizing this mix used area.

John Hoopes pointed out that this area is also currently the only area on the Causeway east of the bridge where emergency vehicles can land in the case of inclement weather, a bridge malfunction or in case of emergency. A motion was made and seconded to not support increased or additional regulation in the waters off the NE end of the Causeway at this time. Motion passed unanimously.

OPEN FLOOR: Kim Begay voiced concerns about people fishing from the drawbridge at night as it is allegedly killing night herons. She stated that the drawbridge tender has been allowing the fishing and that the herons were seen by the drawbridge maintenance technician. The committee encouraged Kim to report this to the County.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 am, next meeting Sept. 10, 2019.