

Town of Oriental, NC
Harbor Waterfronts Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – 12 August 2021

With a quorum being present, Ms. Lisa Thompson called the meeting to order at 8:00AM. Present were Lisa Thompson, Jim Blackerby, Pat Stockwell, Don McGuire, Dan Allen (via telephone), Commissioner Diane Simmons, and Town Manager, Diane Miller. Commissioner Allen Price was present as a guest.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon motion of Jim Blackerby with a second by Don McGuire the minutes of the 15 July 2021 meeting were approved.

Status of Current Projects:

- **Net House**

Mr. McGuire reported that there has been little to no progress on the restoration in the past month. Scheduling has not allowed for the Public Works staff to assist with the project.

A major issue for delay in the project is the large amount of termite damage that has been discovered during demolition. Mr. McGuire and Sandy Winfrey have been discussing options for the best and most efficient ways to proceed with removing and replacing damaged wood. Mr. McGuire will meet with Skip Lee re: CAMA requirements. Once determined Mr. McGuire will circulate new cost estimates.

- **Pump out**

Ms. Miller notified the Committee that the pump out pump was removed from Town Dock #2 for repairs.

- **Whittaker Pointe Restoration Project**

Ms. Miller reported the following on the restoration project:

USDA, granting agency, has inspected the project and was duly impressed with the results.

USDA and Golden Leaf are in the final payout process of the grants.

- **Fishing Pier**

Ms. Thompson reported a need for a weekly clean out of the used fishing line disposal “pipe” as it is being used as a trash receptacle despite being marked for used line only.

- **Jurisdiction – Local Waterways**

Ms. Thompson once again reported that there has been no action taken to date on the bill S279 since it passed the Senate and was sent to the House. H161, the bill preferred by the County, has been included in the proposed House Budget.

New Business:

- **Sound Rivers**

Ms. Thompson advised the Committee that Sound Rivers was searching for new Board Members with knowledge of the area and river. If any are interested or know of interested parties, please contact Sound Rivers.

Sound Rivers swimming report testing has continued with poor water quality reports being reported for the Oriental area. Committee members questioned why the Town Beach was not tested. Ms. Miller was not in favor of having the beach tested due to the need for the Public Works staff to monitor the testing and results.

- **Tourism Board**

Ms. Simmons brought a request from the Tourism Board. With the Town web site being updated, the Tourism Board would like to add a “film” of Oriental highlights to be added to the web site. Though the cost of such film is still unknown, the Tourism Board would like HWAC to fund or at least partially fund the project. The Committee was not inclined to fund the project for three reasons: 1. the cost was unknown; 2. existing photos could be used instead of a new film; and 3. it was understood that an interactive map is to be a part of the web site update.

- **Member Comments**

Mr. Stockwell questioned that since the current kayak racks are full perhaps a new rack is needed.

Mr. Allen advised that he will do further research into a ladder for the fishing pier/floating dock.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05AM with the next meeting scheduled for 9 September at 8:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Thompson