

Town of Oriental, NC
Harbor Waterfronts Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – 14 February 2019

Oath of Office to New Committee Members

Town Manager, Diane Miller, administered the oath of office to Dan Allen and Don McGuire.

With a quorum being present, Ms. Lisa Thompson called the meeting to order at 8:05AM. Present were Ms. Lisa Thompson, Mr. Pat Stockwell, Mr. Dan Allen, Mr. Don McGuire and Mr. Jim Blackerby. Commissioners present were Ms. Dianne Simmons, Mr. David White and Mr. Allen Price. and Town Manager, Ms. Diane Miller.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Upon motion of Mr. Blackerby with a second by Mr. Allen the minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

Status of Current Projects:

- Town Dock #2 –electric vehicle charger remaining to be repaired
- Town Dock #1 – railing along Hodges Str. completed
- Fishing pier – new wall connecting the pier is complete. Damage bids are out for pier rebuild. The bid is to include an access area to a removable floating dock for use during small boat racing. Funding for the addition is to be paid from HWAC funds.
- Gangway washed out at small boat dock. FEMA will fund this work. Looking at several different companies
- HWAC is in the feasibility stage of adding an extension to Dinghy Dock for day use only.

Whittaker Pointe Restoration Project

Ms. Thompson reported that Dr. Lexia Weaver, manager of NCCF's central district, Ms. Miller, Ms. Thompson and Mr. Blackerby had the first meeting with the selected engineering firm of Quible & Greene on 8 Feb 2019. Quible & Greene recently made a trip to the point for inspection and contacted the offsetting property owner about the Town's right of way. The owner indicated that he supports the work and does not have a problem with the right of way. HWAC plans to check the footprint and condition of the right of way since it may have been impacted by Florence.

Dredging Whittaker Pointe

- \$83,650 has been collected to date for the matching funds.
- The Tourism Board is planning a fund raiser gala to be held near the end of March. The goal is to engage all businesses
- The HWAC committee may be put to task to generate the dredging permit. Priority is to apply to extend the grant and have it submitted by July 1.
- HWAC recommended to redo the bathymetry of the channel.

Abandoned Boats

- Commissioner Simmons reported on the meeting she and Commissioner Overcash had with City of Beaufort to obtain information about controlling their waterways. Their takeaways were: 1) Beaufort obtained state legislation (a local bill) to support control of their harbor 2) determined their shoreline and on the water jurisdiction 3) they obtained and use a police boat to enforce compliance within their jurisdiction and 4) obtained a grant from NOAA to fund removal of derelict boats
- Ms. Diane Miller reported on Brunswick Co. – ordinance provides strict enforcement of rules covering overstaying boats
- Mr. Pat Stockwell made a motion to recommend that the town board of commissioners provide funding for surveying the Oriental waterways to establish the town's jurisdiction. Mr. Dan Allen seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Mr. Allen will contact Brunswick Co. to get information on how they obtained jurisdiction of their waterways. He will also contact the Coast Guard to obtain their waterway guidelines on local jurisdiction

Boaters overstaying 48 hour Town Dock Limit

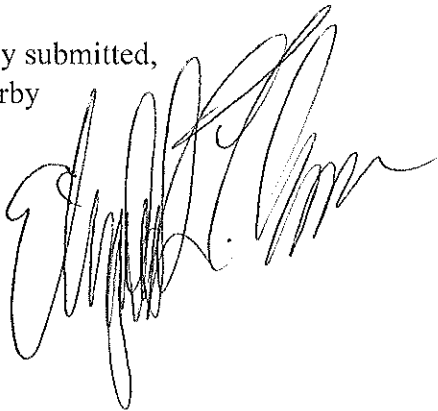
The Committee adopted the warning notice proposed by Commissioner White.

New Business

- Ms. Miller requested that the HWAC help supply ideas and direction to the Town relative to storm preparedness and evacuation efforts. Examples include how to accomplish getting all waterlines shut off that feed private docks and getting residents to evacuate in the event of a mandatory evacuation order
- Ms. Miller reported on her attendance at the quarterly Area Committee Meeting hosted by the Coast Guard which focused on storm reports in addition to hazmat and emergency management planning.
- March 1st is the budget retreat conference to be held at Town Hall

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 AM with the next meeting scheduled for 14 March at 8:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Blackerby

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Blackerby', written over a white background.