

Environmental Advisory Committee Minutes

6 March, 2025

Present: Margaret Johnson (Chairperson), Sue Davidson, Elise Snavely, Doug Sullins, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant, Vacant

Absent: Rosalie Farley, Erin de la Cruz

Staff: Brady Golden, Brice Taylor (Stormwater Administrator), Andy Snead (Assistant Town Manager), Bill Craft, (Town Council Liaison).

Guests: Mary Horsman, Andy Snead

Motion to Approved Meeting Agenda: 1.Sue Davidson 2. Lee Maxwell -Approved unanimously.

Motion to Approve February 6, 2024 Minutes: 1.Sue Davidson 2. Lee Maxwell- Approved Unanimously

Announcements: Margaret announced that Rick Barry, leading Adopt-A-Highway, reported that he had received numerous calls interested in the next clean-up after the notice in The Current. Elise announced that she and her family relocated to Wilmington so she will unfortunately resign from the committee but will continue to coordinate Living Shoreline events

In coordination with the Coastal Federation.

Reports from Staff:

Brady Golden- Town Staff: Courtney Miliron, CAMA rep, left the Law Permit Office; FEMA Flood Plane Manager will fill in for her; a Planning Manager has been hired;

Brice Taylor- Stormwater Administrator: 1)200 Live Oak trees were planted on Oak St., Holly St. & W Oak Island Dr. to 23rd St; 2) Tree Peace will apply for smaller

grants to assist with obtaining trees; 3) Adopt-A-Tree program possibly overseen by the EAC to coordinate and manage volunteers who agree to water recently planted

trees on the streets where they live and else every 5-7 days; 4) infiltration system on Crowell St. and well, drainage systems in process; 5) a stormwater master design

plan being drafted with Kristi in process; 6) MS4 permit with DEQ 5-year plan in process-38 spread sheets (water samples, etc. will be dry weather plan, 1-year

inspections, etc. to be included); 7) trees will be made available to residents one time each through the town for \$135 including planting; an “interest list” of buyers for

Arbor Day is being considered; 8) there is \$1800 remaining in the Stormwater budget for the EAC to spend before 6/1/25.

Bill Craft -Town Council liaison: Former EAC member David Sonnefeld has reached out multiple times regarding monthly minutes not being posted (Margaret

responded that with change of secretaries has resulted a lapse in minutes being forwarded to Michael Emory, but that she will rectify the situation and bring them up to

date; Three applications for two vacancies will be presented to Council at their next meeting; Margaret suggested she contact Lisa Stites for consideration of a the third vacancy created by Elise’s resignation.

Old Business:

Budget: Brady confirmed that he has the final draft and will ensure submission to Council at the appointed budget discussion session.

Arbor Day & Earth Day:

- 1) Arbor Day will be celebrated on Friday, 4/25/25, from 4-6pm and on Saturday, 4/26/25, as part of Earth Day at Bill Smith Park;
Friday, 4-6 pm, at Bill Smith Park: : 2 trees will be planted; 100 seedlings will be given away; Kennette Tower will speak on Tree City designation and requirements;
Margaret will receive the Arbor Day Proclamation from the Mayor at the April 8 Town Council meeting;
Saturday, 12-4 pm, at Middleton Park: games, a scavenger hunt, participants: Smokey the Bear, Tree Peace members, Arborist from SC, representatives from the NC Forestry Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, Penderlea Farms, and Wallace’s Food Truck; (an announcement will be made at the Earth Day celebration that the remaining Arbor Day events will take place at Bill Smith Park)
- 2) EAC will be in charge of the events at Bill Smith Park and have a table with information about initiatives, etc. at all events; plans and responsibilities will be finalized at the April meeting- Sue Davidson will coordinate Middleton Park events.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan: Lee announced that committee received feedback from citizens at the open house on 2/2/25; next meeting will be held on 4/25/25

after an update to Council at the April 8 meeting; next meeting will be held in 6/25;

Recycling: Sue reported that she will attend the OI Beautification meeting and interacted with St. James on their recycling plans.

New Business:

Adopt-A-Tree: Committee agreed to take the project as an initiative in coordination with Stormwater Division 1. Lee Maxwell 2. Sue Davidson- Approved unanimously.

Lee Maxwell will draft sign-up sheets for display at Arbor Day and Earth Day and submit to Brice for review; Brice will provide further coordination guidance at the April meeting.

Summer Farmers and Artisans Markets: Committee agreed to discuss participation to garner citizen confidence but after obtaining more specific information and

guarantee of flexibility with dates and frequency in Spring Fling on 3/22/25 was decided against due to its closeness and inadequate time to prepare and lack of paraphernalia (table, brochures, handouts, etc.); Sue Davidson will obtain more information to discuss at April meeting.

Suggestions were made for discussion of other future activities: public information/presentations (in coordination with Stormwater Division), update of EAC website (status of progress, etc.) -to be added as new

After Arbor Day and Earth Day celebrations are completed.

Adjourned: 1. Lee Maxwell 2. Elise Snavely- unanimously approved.