



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, June 22, 2017, 2:00 PM

North Topsail Beach Town Hall

Commission Members:

Steve Smith
Dick Peters
Mike Curley
Mike Benson
Hiram Williams
Jerry Patton
Ed Broadhurst
David Ward
Mark Price
Megan Crowe (Pender County)

Public Present:

Stuart Turille – North Topsail Beach
Carin Faulkner – North Topsail Beach
Larry Combs- Topsail Beach
Mike Rose- Topsail Beach
Pam Castens - USACE

1. Call to Order & Greetings
2. Public Comments – No comments
3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Peters seconded the motion and it was carried.

4. Approval of the May 25, 2017 Minutes

A few minor changes were requested by Chairman Smith.

Mr. Peters made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Price seconded the motion and it was carried.

5. Consultant/Lobbyist/Partners– Information & Contact Review/Update
 - a. Poyner Spruill Attorneys – Chairman Smith reported that Mr. McIntyre had sent the commission an update and he saw a few issues worth mentioning. He said that there is a proposed meeting in D.C. in September. He also noted that the Topsail Beach CBRA zone issue is a legislative decision (not an administrative decision). He also noted that NFIP is up for renewal. Mr. Smith took questions from the commission.
 - b. Connie Wilson Consulting – Chairman Smith indicated that Ms. Wilson has sent the commission an update that day and that everyone may have not had a chance to see it. He said that it describes how the budget worked out. He mentioned the funding for projects at Topsail Beach and North Topsail Beach.
6. United States Army Corp of Engineering (USACE) Update– Pam Castens
 - a. Financial Cost Benefit Review - Ms. Castens said that the USACE is ready to meet with Topsail Beach about the updated cost and that she is working on scheduling meetings with the attorneys to work on the PPA.

Ms. Castens reported that the cost update is still in the works for NTB/SC project and that she is expecting to have those cost certifications by end of next week and then have a follow-up meeting with the towns to go over them with both towns.



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There was a discussion on project readiness of the Towns and the length of time that the projects have under the WRDA bill, which is until 2021, unless a subsequent bill moves the date further back. Ms. Castens took several questions from the commission members. It was suggested that each town bring a timeline to the next TISPC meeting indicating what requirements still need to be met for the PPA.

7. NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) Update – Mike Moore
 - a. Status of CRC Dune Regulation Review – Mr. Moore was not in attendance.

8. North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association (NCBIWA) Review – Kathleen Riely
 - a. Update on NCBIWA’s activities – Ms. Riely was not in attendance. Chairman Smith announced that the NCBIWA fall meeting will be at the Blockade Runner in Wrightsville Beach on November 13th and 14th.

9. Old Business
 - a. Public Communication – Web Page – Mike Benson – Hosting and keeping information current
Mr. Benson updated the commission on his work. He indicated that he did some follow-up work on Commissioner Ward’s reports and has summarized them to a few pages.

 - b. Leasing & Ownership data for Topsail Island – Mike Benson – Mr. Benson reported that he took the information that Commissioner Ward provided on property ownership on the island and reduced it to a one page executive summary. He also created three tables that summarize the data. He said he would like the commission to consider when it would be appropriate to share this information with stakeholders. Chairman Smith indicated that the commission has already received a request from the State (Senator Rabon, etc.) and Mr. McIntyre. Mr. Benson said he also took the Topsail Chamber’s document on the population study and pared it down to a few pages. The members thanked Mr. Benson for his work.

 - c. H56 Dune Amendment Removal Discussion – Chairman Smith reported that there were very minor differences between what was submitted and what was finally drafted. He said that there were a lot of people involved who need to be thanked (NCBIWA, Hiram Williams’ group, Connie Wilson, etc.) He said it went out to everyone and there was an immediate effort to stop this legislation. There was further discussion about the bill and its possible motives and implications.

There was discussion regarding the Coastal Review article on the Topsail dunes issue.

It was reported that the fisheries bill got dropped.

- d. H900 – Safe Infrastructure and Low Property Tax Act – Steve Smith - Chairman Smith indicated that the Town managers need to look at this legislation, that it is not a TISPC issue. It is a tax issue having to do with infrastructure. He said let the town managers deal with it in the way that it is appropriate.

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10. Town's Local Projects

- a. North Topsail Beach –Stuart Turille – Mr. Turille reported that there is \$2 million in the State budget for a hardened structure. He said Senator Brown is very supportive of this funding which was taken out of the budget by the House. He said Senator Brown put it back in and it is there now. He said that interest from the Federal government (DoD) has increased. He said that Onslow County is integral in the support of the hardened structure project. He reported that a consultant is under contract for the EIS portion of the permit for the hardened structure. He reported that the Town hired an engineer for the Phase 5 repair project (TI Coastal). He said he is working on the PPA with the Town Attorney and scheduling a meeting with the USACE. He reported that there is money in the budget for the multi-use path. He said that there was a meeting of the New River working group at the Army Corps of Engineers – which is the first ever meeting with the Town, Coast Guard, County and Camp Lejeune. The meeting was to discuss how to open and maintain the New River. He said no consensus was reached, but that there is a common goal to keep the inlet open for navigation. The group agreed to conduct quarterly meetings.
- b. Surf City – Mike Curley – Mr. Curley reported that there is funding to respond to what happened to Surf City's beach during the hurricane. He said that the wind and the rain from the last month or so had really cleaned up the escarpments. He said that the sand is still gone and that there really is not very much sand left to push. He reported that Mr. Bergman will be looking into this and the planning of future projects. Mr. Ward said that the Town will be looking at the possibility of getting an engineer to work on future projects. Mr. Williams said that this would give the Town more opportunity to be ahead of the 8 ball if something doesn't work. Mr. Williams noted the success with the repayments from FEMA.
- c. Topsail Beach – Mike Rose – Mr. Rose reported that most of the Town's recent time was spent fine-tuning the budget which was passed the previous week. He said Topsail Beach continues to keep its beach, inlet, and sound fund strong so the Town is able to move forward without a tax increase. He said the Town is still moving forward with next storm damage project. He reported that TI Coastal is moving forward with the permitting and the applications for the shallow draft inlet fund. He said he is optimistic that the Town can start construction as early as late fall or early winter this year. He reported that the BIS committee went on a field trip to the beach in which poles were placed on the beach to indicated how high and extensive the new dune would be when the next project is constructed. He said everything is on track for this project. He reported that he continues to work with Ms. Castens and the BIS committee on the cost updates for the Federal project. He said that sand source needs to be addressed in the PPA and discussion on that is moving forward too.

11. New Business

- a. CRC meeting attendance in Wilmington (Sept 27-28 – Wed & Thu) – Chairman Smith announced that a CRC meeting will be in Wilmington in September and that some TISPC member should attend. He said that the next meeting will be in July in Greenville and that it was moved there to save money on hotel rooms. He said that Mike Moore is planning to be at July meeting and that he will look at the agenda to decide if more members need to go.
- b. Poyner Spruill – Washington DC meeting (Sept 12-13 – Tue & Wed) – Chairman Smith said that Mr. McIntyre is requesting that the commission consider sending some members to be at this meeting. He said he hopes to have an agenda soon so that more thought can be put into who should attend.



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12. Open Forum – Mr. Williams commented on a photo he saw of a new island that is forming at the end of Cape Point at Hatteras. He said that this is an example of how dynamic our coast is and that you will not be completely ahead of it all of the time.
13. Next Meeting– Surf City Town Hall, 2 PM, August 24, 2017
14. Adjournment – Mr. Curley moved to adjourn. Mr. Peters seconded the motion and it was carried.

<u>2017 CRC MEETING SCHEDULE</u>	
Sep. 27-28	Wilmington, NC (location to be determined)
Nov. 7-8	Hilton Doubletree Atlantic Beach, NC