

Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 9, 2014

Location: Dunlap Classroom

Committee Members Present:

Vic D'Amato	Dave Mattison
Bob Soots	Mary Beth Koza
Jerry Cole	Joanie McLean
Nanishka Albaladejo	

Committee Members Not Present:

Lin Andrew	Delonda Alexander
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Also Present: Dan LaMontagne, County Director of Environmental Quality

Chairman D'Amato called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

1. Selection of the recording secretary for the meeting minutes

Mr. Cole agreed to take the minutes

2. Approval of meeting minutes from December 12, 2013

Following a motion by Jerry Cole, seconded by David Mattison, the minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2013 were approved unanimously.

3. Public Input

There was no public input.

4. Nominations and Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2014

Mr. LaMontagne explained the rules and terms for members of Chatham County Advisory Committees. He pointed out that Mr. D'Amato's and Mr. Cole's terms on the Committee expire in July 2014. However, both can be reappointed to the Committee. Also, he noted that Mr. D'Amato could be re-elected as Chairman. However, Mr. D'Amato stated that he would not stand for re-election and called for nominations for Chair of the Committee.

Ms. Koza, noting that Mr. Cole had been Vice-Chairman for the past two years, nominated Mr. Cole for Chair and was seconded by Mr. Soots. Mr. Cole was elected Chairman for 2014 unanimously. Mr. Cole then called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. D'Amato nominated Mr.

Mattison for Vice-Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Ms. McLean. Mr. Mattison was elected Vice-Chairman for 2014.

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Cole thanked Mr. D'Amato for his leadership over the past two years.

5. Updates from the County Staff

Mr. LaMontagne reported that FEMA had recently done a study that resulted in changes to the flood plain in several county locations. Some locations are now considered in the flood plain when they were not in the past. Also, some locations are no longer considered to be in the flood plain. These changes have ramifications for owners of properties that have changed status.

Mr. LaMontagne noted that the proposed interlocal agreement between Chatham County and Pittsboro on watershed protection is now in the hands of Pittsboro for consideration.

6. Priority Issues for the Environmental Review Advisory Committee for 2014

Mr. Cole suggested that the Committee discuss priority activities for the coming year. It was pointed out that the Committee has listed several issues for future consideration in its 2012 Annual Report. These were:

- Assist the BOC with the development of a policy with feedback statement in defense of local government control of environmental protection.
- Continued involvement in the activities of the Mining and Energy Commission
- Involvement in Land Use Plan discussions.
- The size and scope of Chatham Park development will have a major impact on all of Chatham County. The committee would like to follow the project and advise the BOC of associated environmental concerns.

It was agreed that these topics should continue to be addressed by the Committee in the coming year.

Mr. Cole suggested that the Committee approach the Environmental Review Advisory Committee of Lee County for an exchange of information on activities. It was noted that Lee County will likely be impacted greater than Chatham County when hydraulic fracking begins. Collaboration on common issues might be desirable.

Another topic for consideration is the experimental use of solar aeration devices to be installed in Jordan Lake to help control algae. This is being done while standards to reduce the level of nutrients in the lake are on hold. Since Jordan Lake is in Chatham County, it would be useful for the Committee to be fully aware of the conduct and conclusions of this study so as to advise the BOC on this matter.

7. Time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday, March 13, in the Performance Bldg Conference room

8. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Ms. McLean, seconded by Mr. Mattison the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.