

Meeting Minutes

Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee (ERAC)

March 10, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.

Remote Meeting via Go To Webinar

Attendance

Staff: Rachael Thorn, Hunter Glenn

Members Present: Jeannie Ambrose, Mary Beth Koza, Elaine Chiosso, Heather Holley, Alicia Koblansky, Frank Stillo, Amy Fulford, and Andrew Clark

Guests: Diana Hales, Allison Weakley, Julie Esther, Lindsay Ray, and Ace

Members Absent: Jeanette Ragland, Terri Tyson, and Stacey Christian

1. Call to Order @6:30 pm

2. Virtual Meeting Guidelines

- Please keep microphones muted.
- Use the Chat Function if microphones fail or for connectivity issues.

3. **Approval of meeting minutes** - February 2022 minutes approved via Roll Call. Motioned by Alicia and seconded by Frank.

4. **New Members introduced** - Andrew Clark and Amy Fulford.

5. Discussion of Conservation Subdivision Ordinance

- 40% needs to change to 50% conservation space.
- New natural space and open space definitions needed.
- Require natural space to try and be contiguous and join other natural spaces on adjoining properties.
- Horticulture and agriculture are only to be allowed in open space.
- Recommends to HOA's that they should have a funded long term maintenance plan for the care of open space and natural space
- Density bonus, should there be one?

6. **Tree Protection Ordinance.** May have a joint group to talk about ordinance between 3 departments.

7. Public Input.

Julie Easter – reminded the board to keep the environment in mind when making decisions about growing developments and keep a long-term view.

Ace - suggested more educational options for residents and a way to have the public speak up about the developments happening in their communities. A way for more people to know what is happening around them.

Allison Weakley- Reminded the group about the Chatham County Partnership on conservation. Chathamcountyconservation.org

8. Announcements and Updates:

- **Planning Board Update from Jeannie Ambrose.** Planning Board meeting on March 1st was cancelled. Subcommittee for UDO first meeting March 7th, Chance Mullis spoke about response to a survey, conservation subdivision and the reevaluate the compact community ordinances.
- **Climate change meeting:** John Graybeal letter of support for carbon plan mandate in the HV951 law. North Carolina utility commission carbon emissions reduction by 70% by 2030 from 2005 levels. Electric vehicles, charging stations and the idea of how to conserve 20,000 acres of land in Chatham County.
- **Creek Week notification**

9. **Adjournment** Mary Beth motioned, and Alicia seconded. @8:15 pm