

TOPSAIL ISLAND SHORELINE PROTECTION COMMISSION
OCTOBER 23, 2014
SURF CITY TOWN HALL
2:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Curley called the meeting to order at 2:00PM at Surf City Town Hall.

PRESENT:

Chairman Michael Curley– Surf City
Tom Leonard – North Topsail Beach
Suzanne Gray - North Topsail Beach
Dick Peters – North Topsail Beach
Julian Bone – Topsail Beach
Larry Combs – Topsail Beach
Ed Broadhurst – Topsail Beach

LIAISONS:

Stuart Turille– North Topsail Beach
Tim Holloman - Topsail Beach
Larry Bergman – Surf City

OTHERS PRESENT:

Pam Casten – Army Corps
Howard Marlowe – Marlowe & Company
Steve Smith – Topsail Beach
Tom Eggleston – Topsail Beach
Linda Stipe – Topsail Beach
Jerry Patton
John Gollar
Michael Moore
Morton Blanchard

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 MINUTES

Mr. Bone made a motion to approve the September 25, 2014 minutes as presented. Mr. Combs seconded the motion and it was carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Marlowe & Company

Chairman Curley introduced Howard Marlowe. Mr. Marlowe passed out an information booklet titled "Topsail Island Shore Protection Projects: The Road Ahead". Mr. Marlowe started off by saying that both projects have been authorized for construction by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act. This gives us the right to ask for money and to receive money for construction. Construction meaning the bringing in of sand. The next step is initial construction. A 1 to 1 BCR (Benefit Cost Ratio) is required. West Onslow has a BCR of 3.3 to 1. Surf City - North Topsail has a BCR of 3.5 to 1. In February 2015 the President will propose his Earmarked Corps Budget for fiscal year 2016. May to July 2015 the House and Senate Appropriations Committees produce their proposals for Corps funding. Final budget is supposed to be approved by Congress by October 1st but that has not been the case. Congress can't add specific projects to the President's earmarks but they can increase or decrease or reject any of the Presidents earmarks. They can also increase the overall amount of funding for shore protection projects. This is called a "mini-pot". There was discussion about hoping to get into the President's budget. Mr. Marlowe stated that the worst case scenario is that we will not be in the budget for 2016. If that's the case, we need to look at the mini-pot to get a new start. We would need to make a request for the mini-pot money. Districts request funding for projects not included in the President's earmarks. The Corps review these requests. Those it accepts, it sends on to the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for final approval. As it approves projects, they are added to what will be called the Corps' Work Plan for fiscal year 2016. Pam Casten with the Corps stated that our cost ratio is positive and the next step would be looking at partnership agreements. She has copies of PPA's (Project Partnership Agreements) for the Town of Kure Beach and the Town of Ocean Isle Beach for review. Mr. Marlowe stated that a BCR of 1 to 1 is needed to qualify under the law. The OMB requires a 2.5 to 1 minimum. We are at 3.3 and 3.5 to 1. Ms. Casten stated that the BCR's will change. The new budget guidance recalculates every two years but a 1 to 1 ratio is needed for Federal interest. There was discussion about the challenges to get on the Presidential Budget and the benefits of having a BCR of 3.3 and 3.5 to 1.

B. Connie Wilson

Chairman Curley stated that Wayne Goodman would not be able to attend the Four Town Meeting January 4th 2015. Connie Wilson has approval from his staff, not him personally, that he would be able to attend a TISPC meeting on December 11th if the committee votes to have the Nov. / Dec. meeting on that date. There was discussion on insurance rates. Mr. Curley stated that we may be able to discuss insurance rates with Wayne Goodman in person Dec. 11th.

C. Town Local Projects

1. North Topsail Beach – Mr. Turille stated that the Phase 5 project is scheduled to start on November 16th. They hope to start pumping sand after December 1st. This is for 3.3 miles of beach nourishment. They also have approval from the Alderman for the sand bag revetment. This is for the 1450 linear feet north of the condos. The cost will be 1.5 million which they will split 50/50 with the homeowners. They are looking at assessing them \$4000 a year for 5 years. They are also moving towards a parking plan. They are working on a bid for that package and hope to have parking for fisherman over the fall and winter.
2. Topsail Beach – Mr. Hollowman stated that they had a pre-construction meeting on their fall project and the contractors are lined up. They plan to have pipes in place by November 16th and begin piping sand the week after. There will be two dredges and they plan to dust the north end as well. The project should be complete by March 1st 2015 but they have until the end of March 2015.

D. Status of Existing Corps Projects

Ms. Casten stated that they already covered the status of the existing Corps projects and that they are trying to close off project cost estimates. She will leave copies of the PPA agreements for review. While waiting to see if we get into the budget, the first step would be to start getting PPA's together. It takes a minimum of six months to complete. Mr. Combs stated that he would like to see a copy of easements. Ms. Casten said that she could provide a copy of what an easement looks like for review at a later date.

E. CRC Update

Chairman Curley stated that Bill Morrison was not able to be at the meeting. He is currently attending the CRC meeting in Wilmington. There was no discussion.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Curley stated that last meeting Mr. Peters inquired as to whether Connie Wilson was required by their agreement to attend the TISPC meetings. After reviewing the agreement, there is no requirement for her to attend. He has copies of the agreement if anyone would like to review them.

IV. OPEN FORUM

There was no discussion.

V. NEXT MEETING

Chairman Curley stated that the forth Thursday in November is Thanksgiving Day and the forth Thursday in December is Christmas Day. He suggested that they meet on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at Topsail Beach Town Hall at 2:00 PM and combine the Nov. / Dec. meetings. Mr. Leonard stated that he would be out of town. Chairman Curley reminded everyone that Wayne Goodman should be able to attend that meeting. Mr. Broadhurst motioned to have the next TISPC meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2014. Mr. Peters seconded the motion and it was carried.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Combs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:58 PM.

Adopted this, the ____ day of _____ 2014.

Michael Curley, TISPC Chairman

Donna L. Reece, TISPC Recorder