

SUMMARY NOTES
Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
June 4, 2016

The Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee (NCAC) convened for their regular bi-monthly meeting at 9 a.m. on June 4, 2016, at the Neskowin Fire Station. The meeting was led by NCAC Chair Richard Hook. Attending were Bill Busch, Barbara Triplett, Andreas von Foerster, Guy Sievert, George Gould, Jeff Walton, Ron Wojtowicz, Tim Castille, Susan Amort, Mike Herbel, Stephen Dow Beckham, Roger Noble, Steve and Jodie Ostrin, Roger Wickland, James MacPherson and Jean Cameron.

April 2016 Summary Notes

The summary notes from the April 2, 2016 meeting were approved as drafted. The final notes will be available at <http://www.neskowincommunity.org/cac.html>.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Busch reported that the NCAC has \$129.01 in an account at U.S. Bank.

Status of subdivision applications

(NOTE: NCAC comment letters are available at <http://www.neskowincommunity.org/cac.html>)

- Seashore Woods
 - The wetlands are now delineated; updates to this application are available on the Oregon Department of State Lands' website. Richard Hook noted that a 100-foot buffer is required to protect the wetland areas. It is not clear when the hearing before the Tillamook County Planning Commission will be held, perhaps in August.
 - It was noted that this development is proposed on land outside of the Neskowin Regional Sanitary Authority's (NRSA) service area, so lots will need to accommodate septic fields.

- Proposal Rock Cove
 - This application is also dealing with wetland mitigation.
 - The hearing may be in July or August.
 - The Cove is served by NRSA.

Updates on the enhanced Sheriff Patrol District for South Tillamook County

- Richard Hook reported that the Pacific City CAC hosted a recent meeting on this subject; some participants were from Neskowin. The proposal is to create a new tax district to support two deputies. The district would be drawn along the lines of Neskowin's water district and Pacific City's water/sewer district. It is possible that utility districts in Cloverdale and Hebo might be included. The process going forward is to form a committee to write a tax measure that would appear on the ballot in the spring of 2017. It was noted that, even though this would be a special district created by Tillamook County, no elected board would be required. Instead, the district would be administered by the Sheriff's Office.
- The Pacific City CAC will work with the NCA and the NCAC to conduct an email survey on local citizens' attitudes and questions regarding this proposal.

- Jean Cameron noted that she would like to compare the number of calls to the Sheriff's department made from Neskowin versus from Pacific City, as well as the likely amount of taxes to be raised from each area.

Hawk Creek water quality concerns and increased testing

- Guy Sievert explained that the Nestucca/Neskowin Watershed Council has two volunteers who collect water quality samples from 15 locations in these two watersheds, primarily to assess the quality of aquatic habitat. The samples are processed by the Tillamook Estuary Partnership (TEP) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). York Johnson, who works for both groups, gave a presentation to the Watershed Council on the sampling results, noting that Hawk Creek was a hot spot for bacteria. Guy asked York to draft an article on this problem for NCA's May newsletter (see page 7 at <http://www.neskowincommunity.org/NCA%20VOICE%20516%208.pdf>).
- Guy provided a chart provided by York which showed data on the Enterococcus bacteria levels at Hawk Creek from November 2013 through May of 2016. Significant spikes occurred between June and October of 2014 and between July and October of 2015.
- Andreas von Foerster noted that the NRSA was built in response to a similar problem years ago.
- The Oregon Health Authority maintains a "flip sign" at the Neskowin Wayside to advise the public of any concerns with bacteria at the beach.
- Discussion followed regarding possible sources of bacteria into Hawk Creek. It was noted that Sahalie South as well as development on the east side of Rt. 101 might drain bacteria into the Neskowin Marsh.
- Guy stated that a DNA sample of the bacteria could indicate whether the source is human or animal.
- If sampling indicates a failed septic system, the county would require it to be repaired.
- Richard Hook noted that the flow in the marsh stops in the summer, allowing water to become stagnant and possibly to concentrate bacteria.
- Some participants suggested that NRSA is responsible for this problem because it hasn't extended the sewer lines to serve residences north of the village core.
- Roger Noble of the NRSA explained that the agency has updated cost estimates for capital projects and has decided to extend sewer lines to North Neskowin. Improvements will also be made to locations in South Beach and to pump stations. He further explained that an engineering study will indicate what future taxes need to be in order to support the agency. Some participants suggested that NRSA should consider redrawing their service boundaries as a function of their treatment capacity.
- It was agreed that Richard Hook will lead an effort to coordinate with responsible agencies to develop a sampling plan in order to produce more data on this problem.
- Andreas proposed that the CAC work with the Oregon Health Authority to improve warning signs, including placing signage on the beach path.

Other

- Jean asked Guy Sievert whether the County would be leading land use planning updates soon. He indicated that the Neskowin Plan Update would be done in the next year. The County is currently revising its flood and hazard maps.
- Mike Herbel reported that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service indicated concerns regarding the use of motorized vehicles on the Tsunami Trail.

- Richard Hook reviewed the status of the Emergency Access Road, noting that preliminary studies are complete and the golf course has agreed to remove the Butte Creek tide gate. The County is currently looking for a source of funding for the construction.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The next NCAC meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2016; the meeting will begin at 10 a.m. instead of 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Cameron, Secretary, Neskowin Citizen's Advisory Committee