

**SUMMARY NOTES**  
**Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting**  
October 1, 2016

The Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee (NCAC) convened for their regular bi-monthly meeting at 10 a.m. on October 1, 2016, at the Neskowin Fire Station. The meeting was led by NCAC Vice–Chair Bill Busch. Attending were James MacPherson, David Kraybill, Mary Kimball and Jean Cameron.

The draft summary notes of the August NCAC meeting were approved as drafted.

Mary Kimball reminded those in attendance that a candidate’s forum for the Tillamook County Commissioner seat as well as Oregon Representatives and Senators would be held in the Pelican Brew Pub at noon on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Collection of microplastics on the Neskowin beach (Mary Kimball)

- Mary reported that the Tillamook Solid Waste department now has a total of six screens for the mirco-plastic project.
- Thirty-six volunteers collected 182 lbs of debris on August 28 at the Hawk Creek/Neskowin Creek beach area, and 30 volunteers, plus NVS students, collected 126 lbs at South Beach on September 8. Thirty-six persons have signed up for the two shifts (9 am to noon and noon to 3 pm) on October 8.
- She pointed out that the beach cleanup work has produced extra benefits in terms of increased awareness of the marine debris issue, as well as community involvement. Not only has the Neskowin RV Park been helping, but students from Neskowin Valley School have also helped. A local Boy Scout troupe is planning to help on October 8, and Tillamook Bay Community College students may also help. In addition, the Neskowin Café provided refreshments on 8/28, the Neskowin Store provided refreshments on 9/8, and Grateful Bread will provide refreshments on 10/8. (NOTE: The October 8<sup>th</sup> event was subsequently cancelled due to weather.)
- Bill Busch noted that the message should be that plastics debris is ubiquitous in the marine environment.

Status of subdivision applications (David Kraybill)

- Proposal Rock Cove:
  - David reported that the Tillamook Planning Commission meeting on this application had been scheduled for September 22, but was continued (postponed) and rescheduled for November 11. There are only four or so Planning Commission dates before the one-year application window expires, so further delays seem unlikely.
  - There are several issues holding up the application, including:
    - No application for a fill permit has been submitted to the Division of State Lands (DSL), although it is possible that the County could approve the permit contingent on a DSL granting a fill permit, or the applicant may reduce the number of lots in order to avoid filling the wetland area on the property in question.
    - County staff is concerned about the impacts of storm water runoff and is working with the applicant on this issue. The State Parks Department is also concerned regarding impacts of storm water management on riprap at the site.
  - Bill Busch recommended that the Planning Commission members conduct a site visit.
  - It was also recommended that citizens who attend the Nov. 11 Planning Commission hearing on this application should focus on the issue of storm water management, runoff and flooding in the Cove area. Photos of past flooding in this area would be useful.
- Seashore Woods:
  - David reported that no Planning Commission hearings are currently scheduled on this application.

- The primary concern of County Planning staff is with the wetlands delineation, since there may not be sufficient room on the proposed lots for septic systems and buildings. The applicant is currently working with the County Sanitarian on a septic plan.
- The wetlands delineation also shows that the proposed road into the subdivision would cross wetlands, so a fill permit may be required.
- There was also discussion of the riprap proposal on the Grahams' property on South Beach. The NCAC had notified its email list of a public comment opportunity regarding this permit application. David explained that the riprap was approved on an emergency basis in 2012, but the permit is now up for final approval. A State Parks' geologist has recommended covering the rock-fill slope with double-twist rock fall mesh from the top of the revetment to approximately 160 feet above the beach level, but the owners are opposed.

Hawk Creek water quality-sampling plan (Bill Busch)

- Bill reviewed the following information received from York Johnson (Oregon DEQ and the Tillamook Estuaries Program) on 9/27/16:
  - *Background:* The Tillamook Estuaries Partnership (TEP) has been collecting water samples to test for bacteria from Hawk Creek at the Salem Ave Bridge and Neskowin Creek at South Beach Bridge for the past two years. Results of these samples have shown the bacteria levels increase in the summer months to the point where additional investigation was warranted. Working with the Nestucca-Neskowin Watershed Council and DEQ, TEP added an additional sample location below the confluence of Neskowin and Hawk Creeks in May 2016. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) began sampling Neskowin beaches for bacteria around July this year, ending last week. In addition, citizens of Neskowin and NRSA began collecting samples upstream of Salem Avenue, in Hawk Creek, Butte Creek and Kiwanda Creek.
  - *Results:*
    - TEP continued to see elevated bacteria levels in Hawk Creek this summer although not as high as the past two summers.
    - OHA found high bacteria levels in the ocean near Proposal Rock that triggered a beach advisory over Labor Day Weekend.
    - NRSA bacteria results also showed that bacteria levels in Hawk Creek at Carleton St. were high this summer with the highest values reached in September. Bacteria levels in Butte Creek and Hawk Creek seemed to relate more closely with levels at Hawk Creek at Carleton St. than levels in Kiwanda Creek but this is based on very limited data. More data needs to be collected to better understand how the creeks interact.
  - *Next Steps:*
    - As fall and the rainy season approaches, bacteria levels should drop as increased stream flows dilute bacteria concentrations. Neskowin citizens and partners will be meeting soon to determine what more can be accomplished this season and plan for next summer.
    - OHA will consider including Neskowin in their Beach Monitoring Program for 2017. No determination has been made at this time.
    - TEP will continue to monitor Hawk Creek and Neskowin Creek throughout the year and into the future.

Review of the 9/28 meeting regarding an Enhanced Sheriff's Patrol District (Jean Cameron)

- Jean reminded those present to check the summary notes from the 12/5/15 NCAC meeting, when Sheriff Long and Doug Olson spoke on this issue.
- She explained that there had been two meetings in Pacific City (PC) since then, as well as a Survey Monkey sent to both Neskowin and Pacific City residents. There had been approximately 300 responses to the survey, roughly 2 to 1 in favor; 88 questions were posed in the survey responses. The September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting focused on answers to these questions.
- Jean then reviewed the information presented at the 9/28 meeting:

- Doug Olson explained that this would be a county service district, established by vote and administered by the County Commissioners with input from an advisory committee. The vote would create a permanent tax. The tax rate would not increase, but the assessed values are allowed to increase by 2.5% each year, thus increasing the overall tax.
- Sheriff Long noted that his deputies work four 10-hour shifts/week (7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 3 a.m., with emergency coverage only from 3 a.m. to 7 a.m.).
  - For South County, the average response time now is 20 minutes (11.5 countywide). The northern edge of “South County” is defined as Hemlock when there are three deputies covering the entire county. When there are only two, that northern edge is 3<sup>rd</sup> street in Tillamook.
  - For an enhanced district, coverage would be dedicated to the taxed area, except for emergencies; all non-emergency responses outside Neskowin and PC would be covered by existing staff as it is now.
  - There were 20,000 calls county wide in 2015; this included 1,360 from PC and 279 from Neskowin.
  - It was noted that OSP covers traffic, but their force has been reduced by 43% since the 1990s.
  - A handout was provided at the meeting to show likely income from a permanent tax of 50 cents/\$1000 assessed values. In FY 16/17, \$147,750 would be raised from Neskowin and \$181,061 from PC, for a total of \$328,811. This increases annually by 2.5% as noted above. For instance, in FY21/22, Neskowin would provide \$167,165 and PC would provide \$204,854 for a total of \$392,091. The ten-year total would be \$1,655,296 from Neskowin and \$2,028,493 from PC, for a total of \$3,683,789.
  - Jean pointed out that, if one divides Neskowin’s contribution the first year by the 2015 number of calls (279), the cost per call would be \$530. If we divide the total income by the total number of calls for the area, the cost would be \$200 each. It was also noted that the number of calls from PC was more than four times the number of calls from Neskowin. Sheriff Long had not provided statistics on which were “nuisance calls” such as parking or fireworks, versus reports of crimes.
  - The proposed budget would cover salaries for two deputies, plus equipment including vehicles. These expenses are expected to increase by 5% annually, with the result that expenses may exceed income at some point in the future.
- Tassie O’Neil, the County Clerk, explained that bond or tax measures like this are generally done in the odd number years, so as not to get on a crowded primary or general election ballot. Other funding measures on the May 2017 ballot are likely to include a vote for veterans’ services and the library, perhaps the museum and the parks/recreation district.
- Debbie Clark, the County Treasurer, explained that a tax measure approved in May of 2017 would be effective in the following fiscal year, which would begin 7/1/17. If it were not approved until the November 2017 ballot, it would not be in effect until the 7/1/18 fiscal year.
- Ms. Clark proceeded to note how much of the General Fund went into public safety overall. Jean commented that, considering that the Sheriff would like to add a total of 6 more deputies and another detective overall, this is a county-wide problem.
- A show of hands was taken at the 9/28 meeting regarding whether to proceed; the vote was thirty to three to proceed. The next step is for a committee to draft a petition to the County Commissioners, requesting that this proposal be put on the ballot.

The Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Jean Cameron, Secretary  
 Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee