

Members Present: Amy Lanier, Freda Rutherford, Mary McCracken, Cecil DeLorme, Jim Burke, Wick Searcy, Berta Adams, Harvey Ferrelle

Members Absent: Mark Smith, Greg Stoeffler, Helen Downing, Henry Levy, Lou Off, Joe Richardson, Mark Smith, Harry Spirides, Greg Stoeffler



Visitors / Ex-Officios Present: Mayor Jason Buelterman (by phone), Paul Wolff, Diane Schleicher, Mackie McIntosh (COE), Kevin Haas

CALL TO ORDER (*Agenda Item 1*):

Amy Lanier called the meeting to order.

ATTENDANCE AND GUESTS (*Agenda Item 2*):

Ben Watson, Joe Welsh, Lisa Callahan, Chuck Powell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (*Agenda Item 3*):

Freda Rutherford moved to approve the minutes from April, Mary McCracken seconded. All approved.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT (*Agenda Item 4*):

Phase II Update. Mackie is in the process of updating the Project Management Plan. The Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement is scheduled to be in place September 30, 2010. Mackie will provide a schedule of installments. There will be approximately \$2,000.00 that will be returned to the City but some of it will be used for monitoring. There are funds in the Shore Protection Fund, \$122,000 federal and \$28,000 non federal, that will be used toward the 2015 LRR.

OLD BUSINESS – AMY LANIER’S REPORT (*Agenda Item 5*):

GPA Reception – No date set. Paul did go on a cruise for the Environmental Group and Jason is setting a similar cruise for the City Council members and well as a formal event.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES (*Agenda Item 6*):

1. Channel Impact/CZM/SC Port Sub-Committee. Wick Searcy reported that his committee recommends that (1) the Mayor and Council to continue their efforts to set up meetings with GPA and engage the ports in a positive way; (2) the Mayor and Council engage Erik Olsen to explain why near shore disposal is not good for Tybee, and that if his findings are a net positive, to engage him to recommend to the COE how to place the material in the near shore; (3) the Mayor and Council seek the inclusion of Tybee in the Mitigation Fund being set up by the COE in connection with their recent revelation that the deepening project must be extended beyond the month of the

Savannah River. Wick made a motion for the BTF to accept these three points, motion made and seconded. Diane Schleicher would like to know the action items that are coming from Wick Searcy's motion. This would include recommendations and responsible parties. Paul Wolff would like to see a formal proposal from Amy which will go to Council for their review. Jason Buelterman is concerned that nothing being put in the near shore will make it on to the beach. The only negligible is how this would affect marine life. This will be used as an excuse not to give Tybee sand on the beach by the COE. Jimmy Burke asked if we need to sue the DNR to force the COE to place the sand on the beach. Berta Adams stated that the HB 727 requires anyone who removes beach quality sand to replace that sand or equivalent on shore. Where we are running into problems is when the language was set up there were certain latitudes and the COE is using as much latitude as they can to be in non-compliant. She then made a motion to recommend to Council that they pursue a meeting with the head of DNR in Atlanta to let them know about the lack of action and support by the Brunswick DNR on House Bill 727. Second by Paul Wolff. Discussion: Harvey Ferrell. Would like to add something in the motion that would have a person at a high level attend our meeting. Berta said she would add to her motion that an individual come to Tybee to attend a BTF meeting. It was agreed that a meeting be set up between the Mayor, Paul Wolff and Amy Lanier with Chris Clark, Director of the DNR in Atlanta. So amended and passed.

2. Nourishment and Funding Sub-Committee. Harvey Ferrelle. They have not met since the last BTF meeting.
3. North Beach Sand Management Sub-Committee. Mary McCracken. They have not met and have nothing to report.
4. Beach Management Plan Sub-Committee. Freda Rutherford. Their Plan has been down at the DNR and they are still awaiting an answer. Diane Schleicher said that it was still in Erik Olsen's office and had not been sent to the DNR.
5. Harbor Deepening/SEG Sub-Committee. Lou Off is in Atlanta but did send a report to Amy. The report on the SEG meeting is mostly covered by the May 12th newspaper article. It covered the extended entrance deepening for a cost of over \$10,0M, more mitigation for keeping fresh water marsh up river, more oxygen in the water and monitoring for 5 years. A requested \$45-50.0M fund to take care of unforeseen problems in the future was planned but the COE has no way to fund it. The SEG members found out what we know that money to the COE comes from congress year by year. Much concern was shown over this as it is possible to have many needs and no funding. They were looking into the GPA funding a trust fund to handle these things but no answer to date. My questions to Billy Bailey: Is the dumping of up to 10M cy if dredged material in the Tybee near shore in the plan? Yes! Have the Sate's (DNR) questions of 4 years ago been answered? No! When will they be? Soon! Is it realized that having to dump this material further off shore could cost up to \$40.0M more to the project? Yes!
6. Staff Update. Diane Schleicher. Tilling of the beach was completed prior to May 1, 2010. The vegetative area was not tilled that the BTF was concerned over. Sand fencing was done along the back river with the exception of 14th Street parking lot. This will be completed after the volleyball tournament.

OTHER:

1. Frieda Rutherford had a discussion explaining the concerns of BTF to Ben Watson and Joe Welch who are running for state representative for District 163, currently held by Burke Day.
2. In light of the financial woes of both Europe and the U.S., Bill Sprague expressed his concerns about the source of permanent funding for Tybee's beach re-nourishments and

suggested that legal action against the Federal and State governments may be necessary even before the Phase II study is completed 3 years from now. Berta Adams agreed and added that a Federal funding solution is not long term and that the State solution makes more sense as we (Tybee's public beaches) are a State asset and GPA is a State entity generating income from traffic on the river, while they are not the only channel users, they are the main reason the river needs deepening. Amy Lanier responded to these comments by asking if the BTF is prepared to make a motion to Council to pursue legal action. She will draft a motion and present it at the next BTF meeting. Once approved it will be forwarded to the Council as an agenda item.

MEETING ADJOURNED (*Agenda Item 7*)