

STORMWATER ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 8, 2005, 3:00 p.m. meeting
Conference Room 4
Sarasota, Florida

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Nieskes, Chairman
J. P. Marchand, Vice Chairman
John Finnimore
Calvin Kendig
Kosta Dietrich
Hal Simon
Herbert Kaufman
Norm Siegel
Judy Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Frank von Allmen

STAFF PRESENT:

Jon Kramer, P.E., Acting Watershed Manager
Nanette Scott, P.E., Watershed Management
Lauren L. Torres, E.I., Project Manager, Watershed Management
Jack Merriam, Manager, Water Resources
Robert D. Wright, NEST Coordinator
Jacqueline Beshore, Senior Secretary, Watershed Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rick Winters, City of Sarasota
Larry Peters, citizen

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

MINUTES:

The minutes of August 11, 2005 were accepted as written.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

There were no comments from members of the public.

OLD BUSINESS:

A *Draft: Agenda Schedule of Topics* was distributed to the group for review. A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda schedule for 2005-2006 as written. It was noted that there might be changes to the schedule as events occur during the next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rob Wright, NEST (Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team) Coordinator, introduced his new role with the newly created County program. The concept of the NEST Program is to have County and neighborhood groups work together on County land or neighborhoods to better the environment. NEST is a volunteer organization coordinated to promote community awareness of habitat and wetlands and watershed ideology by connecting people with nature. Mr. Wright explained that by combining fun and some hard work, activities by neighborhoods would help preserve the County owned land. Whatever you do in your neighborhood impacts the land around you. Some of the projects mentioned in the program are:

- Red Bug Slough, removal of exotic plants
- Storm drain Identification
- Coastal Cleanup
- Native Plant Restoration
- Wildlife, native plant monitoring
- Water quality and fish monitoring

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

The annual report to the BCC from SEUAC is scheduled for November 15th. Mr. Nieskes suggested that any comments from individual members be submitted by the next SEUAC meeting so they may be included in the annual presentation.

Mr. Nieskes informed SEUAC that attendance is an important issue regarding BCC advisory board appointments and re-appointments. In the future, a letter will be submitted with the BCC packet, which will contain information if the member's attendance has fallen below the recommended level of 75%. Mr. Marchand suggested that if there are extenuating circumstances surrounding an individual's attendance figures of less than 75%, then those circumstances should be included in the letter at the time of reappointment.

Mr. Siegel suggested that following Hurricane Katrina, the County might arrange for any updates and activity should a future storm event impact this area. Mr. Nieskes requested a revisit by a County EOC representative to explain the Public Works' role during a storm event. This might include discussion of heavy equipment storage during a storm and possible storm surge activity.

Judy Johnson told the group about the Osprey cleanup scheduled for October 1st where Code Enforcement and Waste Management will share involvement. In addition, on September 17th there will a waterway cleanup in Osprey that will include areas from North to South Creek.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned shortly before 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled Thursday October 13, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 4.