



**Environmental Resource Committee (ERC) Meeting  
Sunset Beach Town Hall Conference Room  
Wed., January 15, 2020  
10:00 am**

**AGENDA**

- 1) Call to Order. Quorum determination. Meeting declared open.
- 2) Amendment / Approval of Draft Agenda. Motion to approve.
- 3) ERC Member Housekeeping Discussions (on items not covered below).
- 4) Consideration ERC Mtg. Minutes of 12/18/19. Motion to approve.
- 5) Public comments (on agenda items... 3-minute max.). No deliberation.
- 6) Mtg. discussion items for ERC Committee Members.
  - a) Update ERC on Planning Board Mtg. of 12/19/2019 – J. Farrell
  - b) TREE CITY USA Program application process (Town Council approval) - P. Larkin
  - c) Status - CONTACTS for neighboring 'Environmental Committees'.
    - i) Brunswick County, State, other – J. Farrell
    - ii) Oak Is. EAC mtg. 1/16/2020, 8:30AM (J. Farrell – D. Eggert to attend).
  - d) Update ERC on Town Council's progress in filling ERC opening – P. Larkin
  - e) Town's Community Mtg. format (Sat. 1/25/2020 10-1PM) – P. Larkin
  - f) Progress on ERC Members reviewing Town's 2017 LAND USE PLAN.
  - g) Additional topics from CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PROGRAM list.
  - h) Formulate ERC taking on "Rain Garden" demonstration area (next to Town Hall).
- 7) Todd Rademacher / John Michaux – Next suggested steps for ERC to promote public outreach and education.
- 8) Agenda items for 2/19/2020 mtg. (and future ERC meetings).
- 9) Public comments on ERC potential future topics (3-minute). No deliberation.
- 10) Motion to Adjourn.

**Town of Sunset Beach  
Environmental Resource Committee (ERC) Meeting  
December 18, 2019**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Pete Larkin, Tim Kenney, Don Eggert and John Farrell

**Members Absent:** Sarah Ramsey

**Staff Present:** John Michaux, Stormwater Manager

**Council Members Present:** None

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

**Amendment and Approval of Draft Agenda. Motion to accept Agenda**

After a motion by John Farrell that was seconded by Don Eggert, the draft agenda was accepted.

**ERC Member Housekeeping Discussions**

In response to questions by Pete Larkin, Grady Richardson, Attorney for the Town Council stated that ERC members do not need to be sworn in as they do not make decisions and open meeting laws cannot be waived and must be followed.

Discussion followed a request made by John Farrell regarding committee members working in teams to achieve results more efficiently.

**Approval of ERC Meeting Minutes of 11/20/2019**

After a motion by John Farrell that was seconded by Don Eggert, the minutes from 11/20/2019 were approved by a vote of 4-0.

**Public Comments**

None

**Meeting Discussion**

a) John Farrell and Don Eggert updated the ERC on the planning board meetings of 11/21/2019 and 12/5/2019 respectively. Both said that the planning board looks forward to working with the ERC and thanked them for attending. The agendas discussed were generally not relevant to the ERC at this time.

b) Pete Larkin relayed the organizational standards required to achieve Tree City USA program membership and the town's present status of each standard:

1. Establish a tree board – Pete's suggestion is to enlist the Mayor and the head of public works as the board members
2. Tree Care Ordinance – An ordinance for tree care already exists in Sunset Beach.
3. A program budget of \$8,000 – Pete stated that the town already spends more than \$8,000 on tree care and the creation of a new budget line specifically listing tree care as applying to the Tree City Program would be all that is necessary.
4. Arbor Day Observance – Pete would follow up with Town staff to discuss ideas for an observance on Arbor Day, April 24. Pete also noted that he would like to be able to have all requirements in place for Arbor Day 2020.

c) John Farrell emailed Oak Island Environmental Action Committee and they responded that they are interested in sharing ideas. As a follow up, John and Don Eggert will attend the Oak Island EAC January 16, 2020@8:30am. meeting. There followed a discussion as to the pros and cons of outreach efforts and possible future strategies on contacting other environmental committees.

d) The wording regarding the ERC Rules was changed from requiring the ERC to make recommendations on environmental issues related to proposed developments, as part of the towns TRC, to only making recommendations upon specific request from the Planning Board.

e) The opening for the vacated seat on the ERC has been posted to the public in the Brunswick Beacon.

f) The ERC members are going to attend, if available, the Town's Community Meeting on Saturday 1/25/2020 and will request agenda ideas for future consideration from citizens.

g) Pete Larkin stated that ERC is going to request to be a part of the review committee to revise the Land Use Plan in 2020.

h) The ERC discussed members choosing Climate Change Mitigation Program topics where they would like to take a leadership role. It was also thought that the progress made by town organizations concerning these initiatives would be helpful in determining specifically what needed to be done and how long it would take.

#### **Possible future "Public Education Workshop" topics**

John Michaux, Stormwater Manager for the town, presented a handout and discussed with the committee examples of ideas to educate the public using ideal locations that are relevant and utilize the personal expertise of the town staff.

#### **Agenda Items for 1/15/2020**

The ERC will continue to explore Sunset Beach becoming a Tree City USA Program member. ERC will explore setting up an example of proper stormwater management next to the town hall.

#### **Public Comments on ERC**

None

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48AM by motion of Tim Kenney, seconded by Pete Larkin. Motion passed 4-0.

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Pete Larkin, Chairman

Submitted by:

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Tim Kenney, Recording Secretary