

**September 28, 2016**  
**Environmental Resource Committee**  
**MINUTES**

ERC Members present: Richard Hilderman, Chair; Neil Gilbert, Taylor Burkett, Jan Harris

Town employees present: Susan Parker, Town Administrator

Member of Public present: John Corbett, Greg Weiss, Rich Cerrato, Councilman

1. September 28, 2016 called to order by Chair, Richard Hilderman
2. No comments on the agenda by the public.
3. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes -- No minutes available from the Special Called Meeting of 9/14/16.
4. Meeting Order -- Jan Harris requested that future meetings follow some procedure of order. Stating the 9/14 meeting allowed so much discourse between the public and the Committee Members making minutes impossible to be conveyed to a document. Motion was made by Jan Harris to hold public comments to 3 minutes at the beginning of the meeting and at the end of the meeting; and to also allow the public one comment at the end of each agenda item. Name and address of person speaking must be stated at the beginning of the comment. No discourse between public and committee members allowed. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Review of questions developed at 9/14/16 meeting. -- Revised Questions are being made a part of these minutes (attached). Taylor Burkett suggested that in question 6.B. the words "should not" be changed to "shouldn't."

Jan Harris suggested that another question be added to the list of questions. Would like to see the question, "What happens to the ecology of the small feeder creeks off Jinks Creek when the creek is dredged to 6 to 7 feet below mean low water? Will this not have an effect on the PNA creeks and surrounding estuary?" Committee agreed to add question.

John Corbett stated that he had concerns with the term "deep water." It was his understanding that the project was to make a navigable channel through Jinks Creek. John also stated that he thought the questions were good questions and they should be asked and answered. John Corbett was also concerned about the mentioning of bulkhead blowout. He feels there is a need to know depth of pilings.

Greg Weiss asked what the impact of boat wakes would have on the estuary and what the increased traffic of boats would do to the estuary and shoreline. Greg questions if that is being studied.

6. Dividing project into two separate phases: -- Neil Gilbert asked if it may be a better possibility to divide the dredging project into two separate phases. One to proceed with the already maintenance dredged canals and another into just the dredging of Jinks Creek, since Jinks Creek has never been dredged.

Susan Parker stated that was discussed at the Scoping Meeting in March 2016. The Scoping Meeting group determined that it would be cheaper to put all under one permit. Rich Cerrato, Councilman, stated that ultimately that would be a Council decision.

7. Bush hogging of Cape Side near infiltration pond: -- Neil Gilbert explained that there had been bush hogging of trees next to an infiltration pond in the Cape Side Community. Susan Parker is aware of issue and stated that the State inspectors were expected to be out on Friday to inspect the pond. Ms. Parker also explained the responsibilities of the affected parties.

9. NC Coastal Reserve Rules: -- Jan Harris had looked into this and told the Committee that the Comment Period on the NC Coastal Reserves was for the Advisory Boards of NC Coastal Reserves. Bird Island is a NC Coastal Reserve. Richard Hilderman asked Jan Harris to look into the possibility of a member of the ERC being on the Bird Island Advisory Board.

10. Agenda Items for next meeting: -- Suggestion for Agenda Item on Questions developed at 9/14/16 Meeting (Agenda item No. 5 of this meeting) be on the next meeting Oct. 8th. Councilman Cerrato also stated, "There is no rush. Take time to be sure we have all the needed questions."

Also a follow up to the Cape Side stormwater issues was requested by Neil Gilbert.

11. Public Comments: -- John Corbett asked when the Power Point Presentation of 9/7/16 would be put on the Town's website. No one could answer that question as Susan Parker had left the meeting for another scheduled meeting.

Greg Weiss stated how much he appreciated the town appointing the ERC Committee. He felt the Committee would be a big benefit to the town and its citizens.

Rich Cerrato asked what effect the deepening of Jinks Creek would have on Palm Cove. Committee feels that can't be determined as an exact. Inlets are unstable.

12. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Jan Harris