

SONOITA CREEK FLOOD and FLOW STUDY COMMITTEE

MISSION: The watershed is a vital component of this community's well being. The Sonoita Creek Flood and Flow Study Committee will (i) make recommendations to the Patagonia Town Council with respect to best practices within its jurisdiction to manage erosion, to enhance water flow, to create optimal flood mitigation and to promote the long-term health of the riparian corridor, (ii) look at the entire watershed area to influence upstream conditions and to optimize downstream consequences, and (iii) educate the public.

MINUTES for April 14, 2016 Meeting

(NOTE: this meeting's recording is available at Town administrative office)

ATTENDEES: Carolyn Shafer, Kate Tirion, Anne Townsend, Meg Gilbert, Dave Teel, Nick Beauregard, Luke Reese, Brent Bowden. Guests: Susan Belt, Barbara Ellis, David Ellise, Mayor Ike Isakson

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, Chair Carolyn Shafer amended the Agenda's Item 8 to read, "Story of the Creek brochure..." vs. "PRCF grant application for "Story of the Creek"..."

1. The minutes from the February 11 and March 10, 2016 F&F Committee meetings were moved for approval by Kate, seconded by Brent and approved unanimously.
2. Following discussion of the Town of Patagonia's Chapter 13-Flood Damage Prevention ordinance Carolyn moved, Kate seconded and all unanimously agreed to offer the Town Council the following suggestions:
 - (A) Editorial corrections:
 - (I) Section 13-1-2, Paragraph A's first sentence should be corrected to include the word "Patagonia" after the first "of."
 - (II) Section 13-1-3, Paragraph G's first sentence should be corrected to change the word "insure" to the word "ensure."
 - (III) Section 13-1-3, Paragraph H's first sentence should be corrected to change the word "insure" to the word "ensure."
 - (B) Substantive item: there is concern that Section 13-1-3, Paragraph G creates exposure to the Town and the Flood & Flow Committee suggests that the Town's attorney review whether this paragraph could be excluded in its entirety or modified to clearly limit the Town's responsibility with respect to notifying potential buyers that property is in an area of special flood hazard.
3. Carolyn and Dave updated the Committee on the FEMA disaster planning actions as well as CERT training. There followed a discussion about this committee adopting responsibility for resulting disaster/resilience planning. It was agreed that it was

important to focus on the existing mission statement and goals. The Fire Department will be coordinating the disaster planning.

4. As a Town Committee, a quarterly report will be officially made to the Town Council about the committee's activities. Carolyn will make the first report at the Town Council regular meeting on April 27.
5. Carolyn reported that (i) she had attended the April 6 Santa Cruz County Supervisor's meeting to give an update on the work of the F&F Committee as well as express gratitude for the two County employees working with the town (John Hays on F&F; Ray Sayre on disaster planning), (ii) Borderlands had a National Forest Foundation grant application for 750 acres of restoration in the upper watershed but it was not funded and (iii) Murphy Musick attended the webinar on flood insurance and will report on that at the May meeting. Dave advised that he had also attended the webinar and that flood insurance will increase by 25% per year until the Flood Plain Insurance program is self-funded. Brent will share a link for the FEMA Flood Plain study.
6. Kate and Brent reported that the Sub-Committee on sub-watershed projects had not yet had an opportunity to meet, but will do so within the next month.
7. Luke will follow up with the members of the Sub-Committee on feasibility of a retention pond and report back at the next meeting.
8. Nick reported that the Tucson Audubon is actively pursuing the production of a pamphlet to describe the Paton/TNC trails and creek access as part of a grant. We will continue to look at possible funding sources for the "Story of the Creek" brochure as originally conceived by this committee and coordinate with the brochure produced by Tucson Audubon Paton Center. Nick will forward a copy of the grant application to committee members.
9. Discussion of possible funding sources will be moved to the "Parking Lot" for future discussion.
10. No other changes to the "Parking Lot" and "Radar Screen."
11. No other items for discussion.
12. Next meeting is May 12 at 10 a.m.
13. Brent moved to adjourn, Dave seconded.

PARKING LOT (future agenda items)
Town of Patagonia watershed designation by FS
Status of FEMA Meetings
Town of Patagonia water improvement projects
Santa Cruz County flood plain review
List of private owners of creek bed
Conservation easement
Public education program on water related issues
Flood mitigation plan
Active Water Management Area (AMA)
AZ Municipal Water Users Association

RADAR SCREEN

Hudbay property ownership
AZ Supreme Court ruling in AZ Dept of Water Resources vs McLennen