

## 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 November 9, 2017 Meeting

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

ATTENDEES: Carolyn Shafer, Anne Townsend, Kate Tirion, Marty Lawrence, John Hays, Dave Ellis, Murphy Musick. Guests: Bill O'Brien and Marco Garnica (NextGen Engineering), Don Wenig, Dennis Mac, Alex Johnson, Ken Ludwig, Susan Belt

1. Approval of Minutes of the October 12, 2017 meetings were moved by Kate Tirion and seconded by Dave Ellis. Approved unanimously.
2. As an update on the Community Rating System (CRS), the required letter and form for FEMA were sent to David Teel for his signature before he left on vacation. He sent in the signed letter about two months ago, but he still hasn't heard from FEMA. Then he defined what CRS means, and John Hays added important details. John presented a history of CRS, and said flood insurance rates will go up 20% every year. The average rate now is \$2000-\$3000/year. In

12-15 years, the average rate could be \$12,000-\$15,000/year. Murphy has taken 4 CRS webinars and has two more coming up. Next steps would include contacting Dave Teel to contact John Hays for advice on funding mitigation efforts.

3. Dave E reported that he had been unable to find funding for a study on concept design for what might be our best options for flooding prevention, and is stalled. Ken Ludwig asked if we couldn't just ask the public for funding, and then stage the funding at about \$10,000/year. This was well-received, but no one was willing to take on this fund-raising. Dave said he'd continue to seek time with Dave Teel to educate the County Board of Commissioners to ultimately get the funding for a concept design report.
4. & 5. Dave reported he has made some progress toward a Water Quality Workshop. He spoke with Hazel \_\_?\_\_, who is in the remediation department. Got an answer back from ADEQ, which does have a program for Citizen Science for surface and sub-surface water but not for ground water. It is specifically for surface water because it is easier to gather the samples.

Bottom Line: Thinks we will be able to get this funding for Cit. Sc. Projects. Wants to bring together USGS, ADEQ, SCC, TNC, Town etc. and passed out an updated proposal for the workshop structure. Kate Tirion suggested getting Allison Lemons, the new PUHS science teacher involved. Per Carolyn, be sure we cover quantity of water as well in the topics to be discussed. Alex Johnson said we should have pointed questions suitable to the expertise of each participant. Carolyn said we'd gotten a number of survey responses back, and suggested we combine the Stakeholders meeting with this workshop. Dave would like to keep

them separate, with his being held the end of January and the Stakeholders' being in March. This will be added to the Dec. FF agenda.

6. Carolyn updated the Committee on AZDEQ remediation of lead and arsenic at the smelter area, which she visited with Hazel ?? Carolyn's trying to get citizens as well as Town & SCC comments on AMI for PARA's efforts. Hud Bay, in order to not mess up Cienaga Creek, is working on plans involving the Sonoita Creek Ranch. PARA is working with Save the Santa Ritas on this.
  
7. The next F&F Committee Meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2017 at 10 a.m.