**Flood and Flow Committee**

Meeting- February 14, 2019

10:05 a.m.

Town Hall, Patagonia, Arizona

**Members Present:** Carolyn Shafer-F&F chair, Kathy Pasierb-FOSC, Murphy Musick-CRS, Dave Ellis-PAWS, Marty Lawrence-TNC

**Members absent:** Anne Townsend-FoSC, Kate Tirion-DDFI, Kurt Vaughn-BHN, Tina Hall-Paton Center

**Guest speaker:** none

**Guests:** Rita Bradley, Howard Buchanan, Bill O’Brien

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** **Action non-discussion items**

* Approval of minutes- Motion Kathy, 2nd  Murphy

**B.** **Non-Action/discussion items**

**Presentations:**

* none

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RoadMap:** update

*Understanding and Managing Water Quality in the Sonoita Creek Watershed.*

* ROAD MAP grant: Carolyn reported that a grant was written by Next Gen Engineering in order to gain funds to continue with the Road Map project. Support letters were submitted by Friends of Sonoita Creek, Patagonia Nature Conservancy, and the Town of Patagonia. Borderlands Habitat Network had agreed to act as the fiscal agent of the grant to conform to the criteria as a non-profit organization 501 3 C. Next Gen Engineering is a for profit business. The grant was submitted on time.
* The grant was not accepted due to the fiscal agent, BRN, submitting more than two grant requests. Kathy attended the grant writing workshop prior to the grant submittal. She explained that her recollection at that workshop was that someone asked the question about submitting multiple grants. The answer was there is no limit to how many grants an entity can submit.
* Carolyn suggests we write an appeal letter to Patagonia Regional Community Foundation (PRCF) prior to the review of applicants held on February 20.
* Carolyn made the motion to send an appeal letter to PRCF, Murphy 2nd.

**FEMA Flood Insurance** update Murphy

* PP Information has been successful. Articles appeared in the Patagonia Regional Times (PRT), Public service announcements were broadcast by local Patagonia radio station K-PUP.
* Open space preservation map shows TNC designated as open space along with many other areas in town. Murphy is trying to get the town land approved even though there are buildings on the proposed open space site. To get accurate square footage of the open space he suggests subtracting the roof size of the Post Office and Depot town hall. The High School football field can be designated as open space. Follow up will continue with the School District. Montessori school property is also being considered as open space.
* The town property extends along Harshaw road. This could be open space as well however, Carolyn reported that South 32 mining has submitted a plan to the town for a non- permeable, paved parking lot off Harshaw road with lights and kiosk. Tomorrow, February 15th there will be a joint meeting between the Town of Patagonia Planning/ Development Committee and the town council to look at this proposal. A hearing may be March 20th.
* The town general plan is up for review. It is important to update the planning and development of our town by aligning with town needs, not what South 32 needs.
* A drone is being purchased by County Emergency Management by Bill Beaver. The drone is capable of conducting a geodetic survey of town land and other areas. It is very accurate unlike cadastral readings.

**PAWS** update- David Ellis report.

David has three main concerns to report.

* 1. Sonoita Creek flow meters

Wants to get accurate data on flood & flow through town. Christopher Smith at USGS has been doing stream flow data. USGS is under contract with ADOT to conduct a project in St. David. Would this apply to our highway bridge? ADOT Hwy 82 bridge project is in the planning stages. David wants a buried water gauge to be installed once the bridge project goes forward.

* 2. Replace the Circle Z stream gauge.

There is a critical need to replace the stream gauge at Circle Z with provided data going back to 1931. Diana Nash, owner of Circle Z, has agreed to a meeting with Carolyn to talk about the stream flow gauge.

* 3. Explore the ADWR public record

Obtain information about the deep aquifer well drilled by South 32 in limestone. This well is a confined well. Water in a confined well is water that is trapped between to impermeable layers and when the top layer is penetrated it can send water under pressure to the surface. The age of the water is important to know. If water is determined to be 10-12 years old it will impact the town water. If it is very old there will still be impacts but in the far future. Age of water measurements are need and funds acquired in order to reveal the true impacts of South 32 will drilling activity on Red Mountain.

PAWS is a measure of quality of water of streams. Sampling in the non-monsoon season gives better results of quality of water. They are measuring non-point source water flowing down Harshaw creek. Non-point source water means that the origin of the flow has not been determined. PAWS need funds to send water to a water quality Lab to determine more details about possible toxic trace metals and other forms of pollution in the water.

Alum Gulch water is being monitored by South 32.

Harshaw creek was running do to release of well water pumped by South 32.

Watershed Research- Sean Schrag and Kristine Uhlman will present in February

**Other business**

* Environmental Day -State Capitol

Carolyn reported that 24 organizations were represented at the State Capitol. Many students from local School Districts were represented as well. The organizers proposed a new symbol for our state that serves the people of Arizona. Sustainable 5 C’s for Arizona. Clean air, Clean water, Clean Energy, Culture and Climate Justice.

* Earthfest- April 20th

Rita Bradley-Friends of Sonoita Creek gave an update on research on the creek Rapid Stream Riparian Assessment (RSRA) and the up and coming FoSC annual meeting at Cady Hall 10-12pm March 16, 2019

Next meeting March 14th, 2019 Marty will chair the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 11:30 am

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Pasierb

