



WILDWOOD

City of Wildwood

Watershed Erosion Task Force (WETF)

Agenda for the Wednesday, October 28, 2020 Meeting

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Hosted @ Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street – 63040

This Meeting will be via “Zoom Webinar Platform” and be Broadcast on the City of Wildwood’s YouTube Channel

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84406094036?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84406094036?pwd=bkNIMIBOYXcrU3NzQnFZQ2xnbWZYQT09)

[pwd=bkNIMIBOYXcrU3NzQnFZQ2xnbWZYQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84406094036?pwd=bkNIMIBOYXcrU3NzQnFZQ2xnbWZYQT09)

YouTube link: <https://www.cityofwildwood.com/youtube>

Meeting #14 – Consultant Efforts and Subcommittee Actions

- I. Welcome And Roll Call
- II. Opening Remarks By Co-Chairs Archeski And Remy
- III. Approval Of Minutes From The September 29, 2020 Meeting

Documents:

[DRAFT 9-29-20 WETF MINUTES.PDF](#)

- IV. Public Comment
- V. Training Session By Dr. Hammer For Planning And Zoning Commission And Architectural Review Board Members, As Well As City Council

Documents:

[V., VI, VII 10-28-20 INTRO FOR 3 ITEMS.PDF](#)

- VI. Planned Steps To Complete Financial Calculations For Repairs At Priority Locations, Including Interim Steps
- VII. Discussion On Timing Of Parks And Stormwater Sales Tax Initiative
- VIII. Subcommittees

- A. Public Education, Includes Stormwater Master Plan

Documents:

[VIII.A. 10-28-20 PUBLIC EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING WRAP UP.PDF](#)

- B. Ordinance Review
- IX. Other Matters For Consideration

X. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 2, 2020, At 6:30 P.m.

XI. Closing Remarks And Adjournment By Co-Chairs

Note on Agenda: *The Watershed Erosion Task Force (WETF) will consider and act upon these matters listed above and any such others as may be presented at the meeting and determined appropriate for discussion at that time.*

Accessibility and Accommodations for All Groups: *The City of Wildwood will provide reasonable accommodations for persons attending Erosion Task Force meetings. Requests for reasonable accommodations should be directed to Megan Eldridge, City Clerk, at 636-458-0440, or via email at megan@cityofwildwood.com, at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.*

City of Wildwood, Missouri
Record of Proceedings



WILDWOOD

Watershed Erosion Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Meeting #13 Minutes

The Watershed Erosion Task Force meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Remy & Archeski, at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, at Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri 63040, and on Zoom.

I. Roll Call of Task Force Members

A roll call of members was taken, with the following results:

Present: Citizen Members Boykin, Sturman, Holthouse, Berger, Patton, Archeski, and Donaldson. Council Members Clark, Edens, Remy, Farmer, McCutchen, Rambaud, and Garritano.

Absent: Citizen Member Guenther and Council Member McCune.

Staff Present: Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Arnett, Planner Newberry, Director of Public Works Brown, and Assistant City Engineer Rahn.

II. Welcome and Opening Remarks by Co-Chairs Remy and Archeski

Co-Chair Remy welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted his belief tonight would be a pivotal meeting in determining next steps.

III. Approval of Minutes from the August 26, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made by Member McCutchen, seconded by Member Edens, to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2020 Task Force meeting. A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the minutes were declared approved.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Boy Scout Creek Event On September 12, 2020, With Dr. David Hammer

Co-Chair Archeski reviewed the Boy Scout meeting. Mr. Archeski noted that seventy (70) scouts and their families attended the Zoom training and then completed successful field work in collecting data on the mapped detention/retention basins. Time was spent discussing the data gathered and the future use in assessing basin health.

VI. Engagement of Consultant to Complete Financial Calculations for Repairs at Priority Locations

Director Vujnich noted Jon Jones from Wright Water Engineers, Inc. (WWE) was joining the meeting and it is the intent of the Department to engage Mr. Jones, and his firm, to work with Dr. Hammer and staff to address solutions to the critical locations, prioritize the fixes, and determine pricing. Mr. Jones gave his background and noted he has two (2) full time staff members working only on creek and bank stabilization, who will assist with this project. Mr. Jones has worked for WWE for forty (40) years and is a licensed engineer in nineteen (19) states, including Missouri. He noted he created the ASCE National Manual on urban stormwater management.

Discussion was held among the Task Force Members, and the consultants, regarding the following: any additional data needed that is not being collected; the need to determine highest priority areas and cost estimates for those locations by the end of the year for budgeting purposes; the approach to determining priority areas and deciphering how to phase pricing and repairs; the work proposed, which would include a proposal with scope of work; the deadline for the BRIC FEMA Program in late January and the hope to have pricing by then to apply for a grant; the importance of the permitting side of creek repair; the potential for moving the chert load for short term stabilization; the frequent retention of WWE by other engineering firms around the nation and Mr. Jones' ability to conduct work from out-of-state; and the fact WWE generally does not do work in grant funding assistance, because they stay technically focused.

Council Member Rambaud left the meeting.

A motion was made by Member Farmer, seconded by Member Sturman, to engage Jon Jones with Wright Water Engineers up to \$10,000.00

Discussion was held on the following: the need for a scope of work, before engaging the consultant; the timing of the contract and the need to develop pricing for the 2021 budget; the desire to apply for grants in January; and the need to complete the recommendations soon.

Council Member Garritano left the meeting.

A roll call vote was held on the motion, with the following results:

Ayes – Members Clark, Boykin, Edens, Sturman, Remy, Holthouse, Farmer, Berger, Patton, Archeski and Donaldson.

Nays – Member McCutchen

Abstain – None

Whereupon, the motion was declared by a vote of 11-1.

VIII. Accomplishments, Items Underway, and Future Work Programs for the Task Force

Assistant Director Arnett reviewed the Task Force's nine (9) accomplishments completed to date, outlined the three (3) tasks in process, and noted five (5) future projects the Task Force had outlined to complete.

IX. Subcommittees

- a. Stormwater Master Plan
- b. Ordinance Review
- c. Public Education

Each of the Task Members selected the Subcommittee they wished to assist with during the upcoming year. Assistant Director Arnett noted a breakdown would be emailed to members to ensure they had been assigned the group they requested. Discussion was held on the next steps, which included committees hosting a first meeting to determine priorities.

X. OTHER

Co-Chair Remy questioned if the Task Force was ready to place a Parks and Stormwater Tax on the ballot in April, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding the following: the timeframe needed for a tax initiative, which can be lengthy, including the timing of submitting ballot language by mid-January; the timeline of just over three (3) months to determine ballot language and establish support and, therefore, concern the April timeline is too short; the desire to avoid the April ballot, if there is a Rockwood School District bond issue; the amount of work that needs to take place for community awareness, before the issue is put on the ballot; the ability to utilize digital and social media formats to spread the word for a ballot initiative quickly and easily; the belief by some it would take a year to educate the public for this type of initiative; and the potential for conducting an online survey to educate residents and evaluate current knowledge base.

Direction from the Task Force to Department staff was to determine the following: if the City pays for a ballot initiative, but then decides against it, before the ballots are printed, can it be removed from that election and the money used in the future? The second request was to ascertain how long after the tax is approved until the City begins to receive funds?

Consensus was reached among the Members to develop ways to move forward with education and revisit the tax issue in October.

X. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The date for the next meeting of the Task Force was agreed to be set for October 28, 2020.

XI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Farmer, seconded by Member McCutchen, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections among the membership, the meeting was declared adjourned by Co-Chair Remy at 8:35 p.m.



WILDWOOD

October 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Watershed Erosion Task Force Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: Items V., VI., and VII. On Tonight's Agenda

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council
Steve Cross, Interim City Administrator
Julian Jacquin, Interim Deputy City Administrator

There are three (3) items on the agenda this evening Department staff would like to provide a brief introduction to the Task Force Members, before discussion. The items are identified below, with introductory information. The items are as follows:

V. Training Session by Dr. Hammer for Planning and Zoning Commission and Architectural Review Board Members, as well as City Council

Since the August 2020 joint meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Architectural Review Board, and the Watershed Erosion Task Force, discussion has been held regarding an interest in providing additional stormwater training to these groups by Dr. Hammer. This training is tentatively scheduled for November 12, 2020. Department staff is anticipating discussion on this proposed date and time, as well as any specific content Task Force Members would like to have included.

VI. Planned Steps to Complete Financial Calculations for Repairs at Priority Locations, including Interim Steps

Jon Jones, with Wright Water Engineers, Inc., is now under contract and scheduled to visit Wildwood on Thursday, November 12, 2020. He will conduct field work during the day and will have time to answer questions from Task Force Members in the afternoon. After his visit, Mr. Jones will be able to determine appropriate repairs at priority locations and then can outline a specific scope of work to be used to proceed to next steps, including calculating cost estimates for completion of repairs. Department staff is anticipating discussion on the steps in this process.

VII. Discussion on Timing of Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax Initiative

This item was discussed in September, but a final timeline was not determined by the Task Force Members. Department staff did obtain answers to the questions asked by the Members, which included:

1. If the City pays for a ballot initiative, but then decides against it, before the ballots are printed, can it be removed from that election and the money used towards a future date?
 - A. The Department of Planning contacted the St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners' Office and requested information from it on the submittal of ballot language for the stormwater and park sales tax and its associated timing and cost. The representative at this County office, who is the Director of Elections, noted the following on its voting process, if the Proposition is certified, which would then be sought to be removed from the applicable ballot, the following items would apply:
 - a. Request for removal is more than ten (10) Tuesdays prior to election, the ballot item can be removed at no cost.
 - b. Between eight (8) to ten (10) weeks prior to the election, the ballot language can only be removed by a Circuit Court action.
 - c. Less than eight (8) weeks before the election, it will stay on the ballot.
 - d. To remove a proposition for the April 6, 2020 Election, the St. Louis County Election Board would have to be notified no later than January 25, 2021.
2. How long after the tax is approved, until the City begins to receive funds?
 - A. The City Attorney provided the following: Per state statute, the tax "shall be in effect on the first day of the second quarter after the director of revenue receives notice of adoption of the tax [by the voters]." Depending on whether the election is conducted in August or November, the tax will likely become effective in January or April, accordingly.

This item is on tonight's agenda for Task Force Members to determine a timeframe on moving forward with a potential sales tax initiative.

If any of the Task Force Members should have questions or comments before tonight's meeting about this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. The Department will be available at the upcoming Task Force meeting to respond to any questions or comments in this regard. Thank you for your review of this information and input on the same.



WILDWOOD

MEMORANDUM

October 28, 2020

To: Watershed Erosion Task Force Members

From: Department of Planning and Parks

Re: Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Summary (October 21, 2020)

Cc: The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor
The Honorable City Council
Steve Cross, Interim City Administrator
Julian Jacquin, Interim Deputy City Administrator

The Public Education Subcommittee of the Watershed Erosion Task Force met on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. The major agenda items that were discussed, and resulting action, are outlined below:

The Subcommittee began with clarifying its goals and boundaries, with the intent to prevent overlap into other Subcommittee's area of work. The members noted their role is education and awareness of the issues, but not funding. The Subcommittee Members then reviewed the efforts and activities already completed, which included the following:

1. Creation of a brochure informing residents, trustees, and other agencies of the creation of the Watershed Erosion Task Force and its role within the community;
2. Establishment of a Watershed Erosion Task Force email subscribers list, which currently has seventy (70) subscribers;
3. Inclusion of applicable content in the City's weekly e-newsletter, which has nearly two thousand (2,000) subscribers;
4. Creation of a page on the City of Wildwood's website with information regarding the Watershed Erosion Task Force;
5. Held a community meeting with creek assessment training completed by two (2) consultants, Dr. David Hammer and Mark Meyer;

6. Scheduled participation in the City's first Lawn and Garden Summit, which was eventually postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic;
7. Completed training of area Scouts, who then assisted in data gathering effort regarding detention and retention basins;
8. Participated in Operation Clean Stream, the annual creek cleanup of the Meramec River Watershed organized by The Open Space Council of St. Louis.
9. Communicated with West Newsmagazine, resulting in an article featuring the scouting program and highlighted the Task Force; and
10. Mailed all Subdivision Trustees a letter, which included the brochure referenced above.

The Subcommittee then discussed some key education talking points to use in its future campaigns. This text will be revised in the near future, but these points included the italicized content below:

The City of Wildwood is at the western edge of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area, where rapid growth meets steep Ozark topography. Storm water run-off has eroded creek banks in our nine (9) watersheds. Sewer and water pipes become exposed. Recent flash flood events have closed roads, schools, and effected commerce.

A Watershed Erosion Task Force (WETF) has been created to propose solutions systemically.

Our mission is to protect:

- *Public safety*
- *Property*
- *Services that are essential to all our residents*
- *The natural beauty of our community*

Our plans include:

- *Surveying the baseline health of our creek beds*
- *Educating Wildwood residents on what they can do to improve the health of our watersheds*
- *Identifying resources for property owners with erosion problems*
- *Implementing solutions for critical areas that are on public property*
- *Reviewing city codes to see if revisions could provide better protection for our residents and for the natural beauty of Wildwood*
- *Developing a storm water management plan*

Finally, the Subcommittee Members discussed their proposed tasks, future work program items, and member assignments. These discussion items included the following:

- a. PBS show on West County Erosion – Co-Chair Remy has contacted PBS and will continue to pursue this connection to see if there is interest in this type of media coverage.
- b. Meet with Jon Jones, of Wright Water Engineers, to educate and gain input on Subcommittee’s Communication Plan – Director of Planning Vujnich noted Mr. Jones is now under contract and will be in Wildwood in mid-November. The Task Force Members will be invited to meet with him then.
- c. Topic of the Month for Wildwood Enewsletter – The addition of watershed erosion specific content was supported.
- d. Facebook Content – Consensus was reached to utilize the City’s existing Facebook page, which has over 6,600 followers and a strong organic reach, to provide posts relative to watershed erosion and the Task Force’s work.
- e. Brochure/Web content explaining Watershed Erosion Task Force tasks and timeline (<https://trailnet.org/planning-process/> as example) – Goals and milestones should be included.
- f. Ongoing Engagement of Scouts/Parents
- g. Follow-up with Subdivision Trustees
- h. Develop (on-line?) Learning Modules for Local Science Classes
- i. Training for other City Boards and Committees – Training session will be scheduled for November.
- j. Respond to outreach from other groups, including 4H.

If any of the Task Force Members should have questions or comments before tonight’s meeting about this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. The Department, and the Subcommittee Chairperson (Ms. Holthouse), will be available at the upcoming Task Force meeting to respond to any questions or comments in this regard. Thank you for your review of this information and input on the same.