

City of Wildwood, Missouri  
Record of Proceedings



**Watershed Erosion Task Force Meeting**

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

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

Zoom Platform

**Meeting #10 Minutes**

The Watershed Erosion Task Force meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Remy & Archeski, at 6:32 p.m., on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, on the City's Zoom Platform and YouTube Channel, from Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri.

**I. Roll Call of Task Force Members**

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

Present: Citizen Members Guenther, Sturman, Holthouse, Rambaud, and Archeski. Council Members Gagnani, Edens, Remy, Farmer, McCutchen, McCune, and Garritano.

Absent: Citizen Members Uetrecht, Tripp, and Gaultney. Council Member Bopp.

Staff Present: Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Arnett, Senior Planner Gaston, and Planner Newberry.

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

Co-Chairs Archeski and Remy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes from the February 26 and March 7, 2020 Meetings**

A motion was made by Member Edens, seconded by Member Guenther, to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2020 Task Force meeting. A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the minutes were declared approved. Members McCutchen and McCune both abstained on this vote.

A motion was made by Member Farmer, seconded by Member Holthouse, to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2020 Task Force meeting. A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the minutes were declared approved. Members McCutchen and McCune abstained on this vote.

**IV. Public Comment**

None

## **V. Update on Creek Data Collection Field Work**

Director of Planning Vujnich first thanked the Members who completed data collections within the different watersheds. He also noted that Dr. Hammer has been completing field work in Caulks Creek as well. He then reviewed the data collection points that have been gathered to date in both Caulks Creek and Fox Creek. One hundred seven (107) data points have been assessed and collected.

Discussion was then held among the Task Force Members and included the following: the potential to have local Boy Scouts assist with the completion of data point collections; the need for creek cleanup days due to the volume of trash within the creeks; the practical issues with walking distances in the creek and then returning to vehicles would need to be determined early in the organization process; the need to have an understanding of how the form submittal works; the belief the reporting instrument works well, from those volunteering that have completed the collection; the need to organize the areas to be completed by Members in the data collection effort; and a target completion date sometime later in summer.

## **VI. Discussion of Creek Education Webinar Series**

Director of Planning Vujnich noted in a meeting with the Task Force Co-Chairs an education webinar series was discussed and is now being proposed to the Members. A series of videos could include the following topics: training from consultants; resident do's and don'ts; yard waste removal, disposal, and maintenance; task force goals and process; what to do when a culvert overflows/fills; and what a healthy creek looks like. Each of the videos would be a few minutes long and could be placed on the City's YouTube Channel.

Discussion was held among the Task Force Members regarding the following: the support of the idea for short educational videos; the desire to add a video on the permitting process and potential costs, as well as guidance for selecting a company to assist in property repairs; the potential to use the City's consultants to assess individual property issues and make recommendations, but concerns were voiced with recommendations not working and the City having some level of liability; the potential to refer homeowners to the Land Learning Foundation, but concerns with that organization's methodology; the inclusion in the do's and don'ts video of best practices, i.e. no gabion baskets, don't put rock in the creek, and what should be done instead; the potential need for a City ordinance and review board to oversee proposed changes within creeks; the idea of negotiating a rate with experts for consultation on private properties and homeowners pay the fee; the creation of a clearinghouse at City Hall, where if a call comes in, the resident can be provided a list of agencies, engineer contacts, and an overview of the permitting process; the entities that review for work within creeks, including the City, MSD, Army Corps of Engineers, DNR, etc.; the concern that, if a sales tax is passed, can the City spend money on private property; and the resources available for providing creek best practices.

Council Member McCune left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Co-Chair Remy provided a summary of priority tasks to work towards over the next few months. He noted a proposed timeframe to try and complete this work by September. The outline of tasks included:

1. Creation of a Best Practices and Review Committee;
2. Complete data collection by the end of July;
3. Categorize the creek conditions from the data collection;
4. Develop best practices for each categorization of creek conditions;
5. Request consultant calculate estimates to correct issues found in data collection; and
6. Determine ways to off-set costs, or fund repairs and necessary work.

## **VII. Updates on Work Progress from Subcommittees**

- a. Critical Location Identification Subcommittee  
Council Member Edens, leader of this Subcommittee, had nothing additional to provide at this time.
- b. City Regulations and Plans Subcommittee  
Task Force Member Rambaud, leader of this Subcommittee, noted Dr. Hammer will have information next week and he will then continue with review of the ordinances. This Subcommittee can't do work, until Dr. Hammer completes his review, so the group will try and schedule a videoconference with him.
- c. Financing Subcommittee  
Task Force Member Sturman, leader of this Subcommittee, noted his latest conversations with a representative from Missouri Department of Natural Resources regarding potential grant money, but her latest communication identified it as a loan. Funding will likely be difficult to obtain.
- d. Agency Outreach Subcommittee  
Task Force Member Holthouse, leader of this Subcommittee, noted the group had not met.
- e. Public Education Subcommittee  
Task Force Member Holthouse, leader of the Subcommittee, requested any ideas for education video topics be sent to her in the next few weeks.

## **VII. Other Matters for Consideration**

None

## **VIII. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.**

The next meeting date was unchanged.

## **X. Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

A motion was made by Member Farmer, seconded by Member Edens, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections among the membership, the meeting was declared adjourned by Co-Chair Remy at 7:51 p.m.