

City of Wildwood, Missouri  
Record of Proceedings



WILDWOOD

**Watershed Erosion Task Force Meeting**

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

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

**Meeting #8 Minutes**

The Watershed Erosion Task Force meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Archeski and Remy, at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at Anthology of Wildwood (formerly Stonecrest), 251 Plaza Drive, Wildwood, 63040. This meeting was recorded for public viewing afterwards, given the simultaneous meeting of the Council Candidate Forum at City Hall by the League of Women Voters (LOWV).

**I. Welcome and Roll Call**

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

Present: Citizen Members Guenther, Uetrecht, Archeski, and Gaultney and Council Members Gragnani, Edens, Remy, and Garritano.

Absent: Citizen Members Sturman, Holthouse, Tripp, and Rambaud and Council Members Farmer, McCutchen, Bopp, and McCune [several of which attended the LOWV Forum].

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

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

Co-Chair Remy welcomed new Task Force Member Anthony Gaultney, replacing Jeff Jensen. Director of Planning Vujnich advised the members they had been seated in this manner for recording purposes.

**III. Approval of Minutes from the January 22, 2020 Meeting**

A motion was made by Council Member Edens, seconded by Council Member Garritano, to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2020 Task Force meeting. A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the minutes were approved unanimously [8/0].

**IV. Public Comments**

On behalf of Ray & Audrey Elliott, Council Member Garritano introduced them and explained the situation on their property in the Meadows of Cherry Hills subdivision on Cherry Valley Court, which has been occurring since 1994. MSD has been aware the runoff problem it since 2018 and

a representative has been out to witness the stormwater that comes right up to their backdoor of their walkout basement, when the detention facility doesn't properly release water, so the basin is overrun. Sandy, another neighbor is having a similar situation.

Council Member Gragnani introduced Frank Hardie, who has had issues with a City-installed retaining wall along Rieger Road and drainpipe, which now directs water onto his property. His property is further impacted by proximity to Bonhomme Creek, which a neighbor in Three Sister Farm extended his pipe to exit into the creek, yet now it is causing erosion on his property. Mr. Hardie noted the issue had been discussed with Public Works Civil Engineer Brendan Maher.

Co-Chair Remy thanked the attendees for sharing their issues tonight and to please complete the online erosion survey. Director Vujnich also requested any available photographs from these residents. There being no other speakers, Co-Chair Remy closed the Public Comment Session.

#### **V. Discussion of Logistics of Upcoming Training Session, featuring Dr. David Hammer and Mark Meyer, Scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 2020**

Director Vujnich updated the Task Force regarding its selected consultants to assist in determining the proper approaches to stream investigations of problem areas in the City's nine (9) watersheds. Dr. Hammer is a skilled geomorphologist, who has 25 years of City history, and will be primary consult for the field investigations and code review, with the Critical Locations and City Regulations and Plans Subcommittees, respectively. Mr. Meyer, who has past practice of organizing municipal workshops, will provide field training and be available on an as-need basis for these efforts thereafter.

The draft agenda was included as part of the packet information for the training session to be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020. Director Vujnich noted the committee would convene for a light breakfast at 8:15a.m.; the workshop would begin at 9:00 a.m. and open to the public, followed by evaluation training, then conclude with a field trip of Caulks Creek, near Anniversary Park, around 10:45. The training will include an overview seminar by Dr. Hammer and workshop by Mr. Meyer. He asked the Committee to get back to the Department by the end of the week with any changes to the agenda.

Co-Chair Remy requested the analysis form in advance of the field trip on March 7<sup>th</sup>, which could be obtained, so they are familiar with the information that needs to be collected. Co-Chair Archeski requested recording the field trip on March 7<sup>th</sup>, which Director Vujnich indicated it could be done, similar to recording the meeting tonight. Co-Chair Archeski also wants better results than the livestreaming, since the sound is not very effective and suggested he use his video recording equipment. Committee Members also suggested boosting advertisement of this workshop, via social media, as well as invite leaders of Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, etc. Lastly, they indicated a brief meeting with Dr. Hammer and Mr. Meyer, prior to the scheduled workshop with the public, would allow the subcommittees to give very short summaries of their research to date.

## **VI. Discussion of Logistics for Upcoming Lawn & Garden Summit, Scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2020**

Per the enclosed packet memorandum from the Department, with the public notice flyer, this event will be staffed by Department personnel and members of the Public Education Subcommittee. Working hours of the event, which is to be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020, will be Noon to 5:30 p.m. Council Member Edens explained the Subcommittee would have a booth to share related materials and direct them of other vendors based upon requested needs. A stream table demonstration will be provided by Co-Chair Archeski and free saplings will be handed out by the Department, which were provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC).

## **VII. Review of Task Matrix (New Document)**

Director Vujnich explained this new spreadsheet summarized the tasks identified by the Task Force, the status of each [i.e. not begun, in progress, or complete], and the date each item was discussed and/or acted upon from the first meeting in July 2019, to date, and planned future meetings. The Task Force may not be completed by the last date currently reflected upon the chart, but it can be expanded upon beyond the goals that are noted over the next four (4) months.

Council Member Gragnani mentioned code review could take a lot of time and would like to incorporate some of the information gathered by the Task Force, perhaps in the form of a reference list and/or appendix, so as not to burden the document with duplicate information.

Another task identified, as part of this matrix, with results shown on the table provided as part of this evening's meeting, Director Vujnich noted compilation of resident erosion reports by Assistant Director Arnett. This spreadsheet will continue to be updated, as more reports are received to the Department. The addresses of respondents can be mapped using a .kmz file imported to Google Earth, which will also be updated, as further reporting is obtained.

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

### **a. Critical Location Identification Subcommittee:**

Council Member Edens, leader of this Subcommittee, noted this group's items were already addressed earlier in the meeting [i.e. March 7<sup>th</sup> Training Session and erosion brochure]. Per the draft letter included as part of tonight's packet, it is to be mailed to 500+ Homeowner's Associations. Assistant Director Arnett asked if any changes needed to be made to the letter, which the Department will mail out tomorrow. Council Member Gragnani asked for an addition to it, specifying the need to notify the City and obtain permits prior to any work within a stream channel.

Council Member Edens noted an erosion situation on Wild Horse Creek Road, which was passed along to her from Council Member Brost. She would forward the information to staff, via email,

and requested a timeframe the Department could look into the issue. Council Member Gragnani noted a Wild Horse Creek Valley speaker at a past Council meeting regarding damming up the creek. Director Vujnich stated the problem was more so flooding than erosion and asked her to complete the online survey.

At the request of the full Task Force, Watershed Field Workbooks were distributed to all members. These workbooks contain updated maps of each individual major watershed for better clarity and street name labels. The workbooks will be utilized for the training and field trip session planned for March 7, 2020 and compiled with future stream evaluations.

b. City Regulations and Plans Subcommittee

This group is prepared to begin review work with Dr. Hammer.

c. Financing Subcommittee

As new information is found, the data-gathering spreadsheet is updated, which is saved to SharePoint. There is nothing further to report at this time.

d. Agency Outreach Subcommittee

This subcommittee has not met since January 21<sup>st</sup>; therefore, there is nothing further to report at this time.

e. Public Education Subcommittee

As previously mentioned by Public Education Subcommittee Member Edens, this group will assist with the Wildwood's Inaugural Lawn & Garden Summit scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>. Members will staff a booth and hand out materials to interested attendees at the event.

**IX. Other Matters for Consideration**

Public Comment was reopened:

Mike Patten asked if there is a situation in his subdivision that arises, is there a way the City can step in before it costs the Fox Creek Valley HOA thousands of dollars, even if on private property. Since 2018, his subdivision has had to collect \$50-70,000 in special assessments on culverts and other clean up. Co-Chair Remy noted that, first and foremost, the critical locations need to be identified, so the City is aware of them, then try to determine workable solutions. Director Vujnich indicated the City is currently not in a position to assist on private property; however, a ballot issue for Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax is being considered. If such proposition passed, the funds could assist with flooding and erosion matters, regardless of being private or public property.

**X. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, March 31, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.**

Aside from the training to be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020 and the intermittent subcommittees meeting at their discretion, the full Task Force will meet again on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**XI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

A motion was made by Citizen Member Gaultney, seconded by Citizen Member Uetrecht, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was declared adjourned by Co-Chair Archeski at 7:11 p.m.