

Meeting Date/Time: January 14, 2021; 5:00 pm

Members present: Mary Stowe; Pamela Schultz; Phil Post (left at 6:30); Janet Clarke; Shugong Wang; Stefan Klakovich; Stephan Hearn; Steve Bevington; Tai Huynh (Council Liaison)

Members absent: Chad Pickens (exc.)

Staff: Ernest Odei-Larbi; Sue Burke; Alisha Goldstein; Mary Beth Meumann; Allison Weakley; Chris Roberts; Sammy Bauer; Amy Harvey

Guests: Julie McClintock; Tom Murray; John Richardson

Agenda Item	Discussion points	Motions/Votes	Action
Meeting called to order	Ms. Schultz called the virtual meeting to order and called the roll.	N/A	The virtual meeting began at 5:06 on Zoom; a quorum was present.
Introductions	Ms. Schultz asked the Board's newest member, Janet Clarke, to reintroduce herself. Ms. Clarke is a Stormwater Specialist at UNC and is replacing Sally Hoyt as the UNC representative.	N/A	N/A
Announcements	Ms. McClintock forwarded a letter to Mr. Pickens and the staff liaison summarizing a meeting that she and others had with Mayor Hemminger concerning the referral of projects to the Stormwater Advisory Board for recommendations and comments. Two projects that the Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board (ESAB) wanted the Stormwater Advisory Board to provide comments were not forwarded. The meeting clarified the process – any projects the ESAB would like the Stormwater Advisory Board to provide input will go to the Town Council with a recommendation that the Council refer the projects to the Stormwater Board.	N/A	Staff forwarded Ms. McClintock's email to the Board members.
Petitions	None	N/A	N/A
Approval of meeting notes	None	Mr. Post made a motion to approve the meeting notes from the October 27, 2020 meeting. Ms. Stowe seconded the motion. In a roll-call vote, it passed unanimously (8-0). [Bevington, Clarke, Hearn, Klakovich, Post, Schultz, Stowe, Wang]	N/A

BOARD BUSINESS			
Agenda Item	Discussion points	Motions/Votes	Action
Draft Climate Action and Response Plan presentation	<p>The Town’s Community Resilience Officer, John Richardson, presented the draft Climate Action and Response to the Stormwater Board (copy of presentation will be emailed to the Board members). His presentation will provide context and background for the plan.</p> <p>Town staff have been working on the plan for a year; the Town Council requested the plan be created at the same time the Town is taking action. The plan is a visionary document that describes a variety of actions, some of which the Town is already undertaking; this plan will build and expand on those (e.g., mobility plan). Other actions (e.g., resiliency) have not been initiated; more detailed implementation strategies will need to be developed.</p> <p>Unlike the other measures, the metric for Resiliency is to reduce recovery time from different climate stressors (as opposed to reduction of carbon emissions). The goal is to anticipate the kinds of things we will be affected by as a community and improve our readiness to the extent that we can.</p> <p>Examples from the plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserving/protecting natural areas • Conducting and implementing subwatershed studies • Using early warning systems <p>Resiliency targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree planting • Green infrastructure ordinance <p>From community feedback, the Town’s focus should be: planning for a community where it’s easier to walk and bike and use transit (less driving); planning for and building a climate-resilient community and the infrastructure</p>		

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<p>Draft Climate Action and Response Plan presentation (cont.)</p>	<p>needed to recover quickly; and developing climate-smart development rules (LUMO rewrite is an opportunity to do this).</p> <p>The Elliott Rd flood storage project in Booker Creek Basin Park is an example of the Town investing in resilience.</p> <p>The draft plan has been out since November and staff has been meeting with advisory boards. The draft plan will be presented to the Town Council on January 27 with the final plan going to Council in March for action.</p> <p>Questions/comments from Board members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are school buses considered Town vehicles? No; school buses and buildings are included in the community numbers. • Will solar panels create more impervious area (and consequently runoff)? For individual homes, roof-top solar panels will not add to imperviousness. It is an important factor with utility-scale solar panel installation and will need to be considered. • The Board is very interested in an early warning system – the presentation referenced use of existing Bolin and Booker Creek gages. The existing system needs to be expanded – will the plan reflect the need for additional investment? Yes, the intent is to expand and enhance beyond the existing gages. • Suggest changing “climate hazards” to “flooding hazards.” Staff will take another look at that. • Need to begin thinking about an east-west BRT corridor system to link employment centers. Can it be added to the plan? The north-south BRT was referenced because there is more information about that plan. The concept of an east-west BRT system could be added to this plan. Staff expects to have plan 		

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<p>Draft Climate Action and Response Plan presentation (cont.)</p>	<p>updates every five years to account for changes in technology, local/state/federal policies, and to take advantage of new opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resiliency is the strongest overlap with this Board’s charter. Going forward we will need to be very honest with the community about what it will cost and what the damage will be if we don’t achieve this. It’s expensive to improve stormwater infrastructure and a lot of the existing infrastructure is already stressed (at capacity). • Transportation is clearly linked to impervious surface. Hopefully healthier transportation modes will result in a decrease in some amount of impervious surface. • Will the recommendations from the stormwater subwatershed studies be incorporated into the resiliency plan? Staff sees this plan as a driver to help support and reinforce those recommendations. • Interest in community solar projects in neighborhoods. How can residents be part of that? • Likes emphasis on trees and green infrastructure ordinance but it seems to be too much of a footnote. Preserving green space is an important thing for us to do. Trees are part of the equation but suggests thinking about emphasizing bio-diversity (not just tree canopy). • Carrboro’s community action plan is doing a lot of outreach to neighborhoods (e.g., working with neighborhoods to build rain gardens). Could see similar effort as part of the LUMO rewrite. Also suggests asking Town staff for ideas. <p>Suggestions are not limited to board members and residents – staff is open to input from everyone.</p>		

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<p>Eastwood Lake Subwatershed Study Report presentation</p>	<p>Tom Murray, W. K. Dickson gave a Powerpoint presentation to the Stormwater Board.</p> <p>Eastwood Lake is the second subwatershed study in the Booker Creek watershed. Eastwood Lake land use is mostly single-family residential and everything drains to Eastwood Lake. Area is characterized by steep terrain and the drainage system is mostly culverts and open channels (“roadside ditches”).</p> <p>A common theme from residents is related to stream erosion; fewer concerns heard about flooding compared to Lower Booker Creek.</p> <p>Key recommendations include:</p> <p>Infiltration – promote infiltration while recognizing difficulties with existing clay soils</p> <p>Detention – flood storage areas identified in the Lower Booker Creek report</p> <p>Increase capacity - to protect structures and roadways and handle larger storms; consistent with resiliency discussion.</p> <p>Stream stabilization - major recommendation in this particular subwatershed.</p> <p>Proactive maintenance – infrastructure is aging. Less expensive to maintain and replace infrastructure before it fails.</p> <p>Policy recommendation to consider additional stormwater management measures, recognizing existing flooding that is already occurring; and encourage use of green infrastructure and low impact design.</p> <p>Recommended flood-related projects - one primary system project (\$457,000) and six secondary system projects (total planning estimate of \$1.1M).</p> <p>Sixteen stream stabilization projects, totaling approximately 6,900 linear feet, were identified. Many are located on private property. Total approximate planning cost estimates for these projects range between \$3.6M and \$6.2M.</p>		

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<p>Eastwood Lake Subwatershed Study Report presentation (cont.)</p>	<p>Next steps include presenting the Eastwood Lake report to the Town Council; finalizing the Cedar Fork subwatershed study report; and starting the Crow Branch subwatershed study.</p> <p>Board members' questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the stream undercutting recent? Erosion is a natural process, especially in the Piedmont. If undercutting is not a function of human activity, then stream stabilization may not be a problem. <p>Mr. Murray agreed that stream aggradation and degradation are natural functions but human impacts are evident in the uncontrolled runoff coming from roads and homes. Active erosion is occurring, causing significant sediment loads in Eastwood Lake. This concern could be considered in prioritizing the stream stabilization work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bevington offered that the NC Land and Water Fund (previously the Clean Water Management Trust Fund) has grants for stream stabilization. Grants are typically about \$400,000. <p>Board members are interested in moving the next priority projects to the design and construction phase. Staff noted that five priority projects were included in the BRIC grant application. In the meantime, an RFQ will be prepared for design and permitting services. The Board will need to make a recommendation to the Town Council for this report. Staff anticipates it going to Council in March/April.</p>		<p>The presentation will be posted to the website and emailed to Board members by staff.</p>
<p>Chair, Vice-Chair elections</p>	<p>At the October 27, 2020 meeting, Mr. Pickens said he would be willing to become the Chair and Mr. Wang was willing to be the Vice-Chair.</p>	<p>Mr. Klakovich made a motion to elect Mr. Pickens as Chair and Mr. Wang as Vice-Chair. Mr. Hearn seconded the motion.</p> <p>It passed unanimously, 7-0, in a roll call vote. [Bevington, Clarke, Klakovich, Pickens, Schultz, Stowe, Wang]</p>	

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January 26, 2021 meeting	Cancel or meet again on January 26, 2021?	Mr. Bevington made a motion to cancel the January 26 meeting; Mr. Klakovich seconded the motion. It passed unanimously, 7-0, in a roll call vote. [Bevington, Clarke, Klakovich, Pickens, Schultz, Stowe, Wang]	
ADJOURNMENT		A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Klakovich and seconded by Mr. Bevington. It passed unanimously, 7-0, in a roll call vote. [Bevington, Clarke, Klakovich, Pickens, Schultz, Stowe, Wang]	Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.