

***Piedmont Conservation Council, Inc.***

***FINAL Full Council Meeting Minutes***

***October 17, 2013***

**Members Present:** Alex Ashton (Chairman, Guilford), Eddie Culberson (Vice-Chair, Durham), Norton Webster (Secretary, Chatham), Rudy Langley (Treasurer, Alamance), Frank Green (Rockingham), Larry Baker (Rockingham), Bill Alston (Randolph), Terry Hackett (Orange), Millie Langley (Alamance), Janet MacFall (Alamance), Joanna Lelekacs (Orange), Hester Vernon (Caswell), Brenda Williams (Chatham)

**Staff Present:** Jacob Leech

**Guests Present:** Claudia Berryhill (Council Applicant), Aaron Holland (Council Applicant)

- I. **Call to Order & Chairman Comments** – Alex Ashton, Chairman
  - a. Alex Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM on October 17, 2013 at Alamance Community College in Graham, NC and confirmed the presence of a quorum. Due to the presence of newer members and guests, the Chairman called for self-introductions prior to beginning the meeting.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** from April 25, 2013 Full Council meeting unanimously approved (M: Alston, 2: R. Langley; Unanimously approved).
- III. **Discussion/ Decision Items**
  - a. **Baker Engineering Partnership Discussion** – Eddie Culberson provided a brief description of a project partnership pitched to Baker Engineering in which PCC could play the role of utilizing local connections to identify potential EEP project sites and possibly provide long-term easement monitoring. Baker’s representatives declined after determining there would be a low profitability for their firm.
  - b. **PCC Bylaws Amendment** – The proposed amendment to PCC bylaws were reviewed, after having been previously distributed as required. The amendments included simple additions to the bylaws to include Person County in the membership. A motion was made to accept. (M: R. Langley, 2: Green; Unanimously Approved)
  - c. **Person County Council Member Applications** – Aaron Holland and Claudia Berryhill provided introductions and backgrounds. Both of their applications were previously submitted for review and were brought before the Council for approval. (M: Alston, 2: R. Langley; Unanimously Approved) Frank Green provided a brief background to the new members on the function and process of the PCC Board and Council.
  - d. **Grant Opportunities:**
    1. **ADFP Trust Fund** – Person County had previously expressed interest in having a Farmland Protection Plan developed. Aaron mentioned that the Assistant Co. Manager was on board and willing to help coordinate matching funds and partners for the application. The motion was to submit and application for \$14,000. (M: Alston, 2: Williams; Unanimously Approved)

2. **Syngenta** – Alex and Jacob submitted a grant to Syngenta’s 2014 Community Grants for \$9,400 to fund a pilot project for the Ag Landlord Project. (M: R. Langley, 2: Green; Unanimously Approved)

- e. **Town of Hillsborough Project Idea** – Terry, Gail, and Jacob had discussed the possibility of pursuing a project in the Town of Hillsborough. The Public Works building and storage yard is located in a floodplain and the town is interested in relocating to another location, which would allow for a restoration project on the Eno River. Terry provided the background and mentioned that 319 could be a possible source of funding and the town may be willing to provide matching funds for the project, as they would have to invest in the project anyway. The Eno River Association was mentioned as a potential partner. Jacob will follow up with Terry and Gail and get the project moving in December/January.
- f. **PCC Annual Plan** – Jacob is awaiting corrections to the FY 2013 financials before the Annual Plan can be finalized. He will distribute to the Council via email for suggestions and it will be approved at a future meeting.

#### IV. Updates

- a. **Operations/accounting:** Renewals were being worked on for the Charitable Solicitation License, General Liability Insurance. Jacob will be working with J. Michael Fargis for the 990 and financial review.
- b. **Fab Lab Carolinas:** Awaiting results from Z. Smith Reynolds and TJ Maxx Foundation grants.
- c. **Chapel Hill High:** Grants from CWMTF and 319 were not funded. CWMTF did not fund any restoration projects and that would have been the matching source for 319.
- d. **Durham Green Roof:** Moving forward on design but awaiting news about construction funds from EEG.
- e. **Dam Removals:** Smithermans is on schedule for November 4.
- f. **Biocenosis:** Currently working to finalize the contract with the state.
- g. **Caswell Co. Farmland Protection Plan:** Plan is complete but we are waiting on reimbursement from ADFP Trust Fund.
- h. **Hines Chapel Preserve Incubator Farm:** Project has been approved by the Open Space Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission. Awaiting a meeting date for a work session with Guilford County BOC. Working on PART strategic plan due at end of 2014.
- i. **Ag Landlord Project:** Pending grant with Syngenta.
- j. **Pending Grants:**
  - 1. Syngenta (Ag Landlord Project)
  - 2. EEG (Durham Green Roof)
  - 3. TJ Maxx Foundation (FLC)
  - 4. Z. Smith Reynolds (FLC)

#### V. Board Member Comments, New Business

- a. Joanna Lelekacs provided an introduction and was welcomed as a new council member.
- b. Brenda Williams provided an introduction for herself for newer council members.

- c. Jacob briefly described a potential project in Asheboro that would be a community park including athletic fields and a nature trail. Stakeholders from Asheboro will come to a future meeting to present details.

**VI. Upcoming events/meetings**

- a. Next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2013 6:30-8:30pm.
- b. Next Full Council meeting is January 16, 6-9pm.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.