

**Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program**  
**Citizens' Advisory Committee**  
**Roanoke/Cashie River Center Windsor, NC**  
**April 7, 2006**

**Minutes**

**CAC Members present:** Kay Winn; Mary Alsentzer; Stacy Bradshaw; Mike Johnson; Sarah Phillips; Tom Stroud; Marty Wiggins; Charles Bass; Diane Hardison

**APNEP staff present:** Bill Crowell; Joan Giordano; Kelly Williams, Noah Hill

Chair Kay Winn convened the meeting at 10 a.m.

**WELCOME**

Phillip Patrick of the Roanoke/Cashie River Center welcomed the CAC and talked briefly about the facility's role in providing environmental education and community development.

**NEW MEMBERS AND TERM ASSIGNMENTS**

- 1) Joan Giordano reported that Paul O'Neill of Currituck County and Ann Coughlin of NC Parks and Recreation have agreed to serve on the CAC filling 2 of the 3 vacant At-large positions.
- 2) Giordano advised CAC members on the assigning of 1-, 2-, and 3- year initial terms in order to create a cycle where 1/3 of the Committee would have their terms expire each year. (List attached.) Staff reminded members that by-laws allow those who receive 1- or 2-year terms to be reappointed for a full 3-year term when their initial terms expire.

**DISCUSSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT GRANT PROPOSALS**

Staff reviewed APNEP demonstration projects funded in the FY 2005 cycle and introduced the Schoolyard Demonstration proposals submitted for this year.

Projects applications for this totaled \$228,478 in requested funding, with only \$125,000 available for distribution. Bill Crowell advised the Committee that the only mandates binding its decisions were that projects had to meet the criteria specified in the RFP, and \$25,000 of the total funding had to be allotted to projects in Virginia.

Discussion of the proposals resulted in the following actions:

- 1) Staff said that the Coastal Carolina Classrooms proposal did not meet all the RFP criteria and thus it should be eliminated from consideration. The Committee agreed by consensus.
- 2) Only one proposal was submitted from Virginia, a \$25,000 request from Red Mill Elementary School in Virginia Beach. Noah Hill expressed support for the project, but said he would like it to also address an eroding ditch on a different part of the property, and felt that a final site plan should be submitted to APNEP for review and approval. Concern was also voiced that the project should use more native plant species.

\*\*Sarah Phillips moved that the Red Mill project be fully funded, pending staff assessment that appropriate plant species are selected and review of a final site plan. Mary Alsentzer seconded. The motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

- 3) Concern was expressed that the NC State University proposal for a permeable parking lot would not serve as a viable demonstration project because it would be too complex for general replication. Uncertainty over the contribution of pavers to the project also raised questions. The proposal was eliminated from consideration by consensus.
- 4) \*\*Tom Stroud moved that the NC Division of Forest Resources proposal be eliminated from consideration since it did not meet all the RFP criteria. Stacy Bradshaw seconded. The motion passed on unanimous voice vote.
- 5) In discussion of the proposals still eligible for consideration, staff advised that the Perquimans County High School project, which was to augment a 2005 APNEP grant project, would only derive significant benefit from the removal and replacement of a small footbridge. This would reduce the funds needed for that project from \$23,000 to \$11,400. Combined with the elimination of other projects, this meant that six projects requesting a total of approximately \$122,000 were still under consideration for the remaining \$100,000 of funding.

Stroud said that while he felt the Howell Woods proposal was an excellent project, he did not feel it met the RFP criteria quite as completely as the other remaining projects did. In response to a question, Crowell explained that the Committee could recommend the project receive funding directly through the FY 2007 work plan. If that choice was made, the remaining five proposals could be funded at the requested levels.

\*\*Tom Stroud moved that the P.S. Jones, Manteo Middle School, Williamston High School, and Carteret Community College proposals be fully funded, with appropriate revisions and changes negotiated by staff; that the Perquimans High School proposal be funded at \$11,400 to replace the footbridge; that funding for the Howell Woods project be requested in the FY 2007 work plan; and that staff reallocate any funds unexpended in the grant program back to APNEP. Diane Hardison seconded. The motion passed 7-1, with Charles Bass voting against and Sarah Phillips abstaining as a participant in one of the projects.

Crowell noted that it might be possible to substantially fund the Howell Woods project with unallocated money from other programs in this year's operating budget. The Committee urged him to explore that option.

- 6) Bass expressed concern about the functionality of the projects proposed by P.S. Jones Middle School and Manteo Middle School. Staff said they could recommend review of those projects by Extension or NRCS experts to ensure they have a good chance of performing as anticipated.

\*\*Charles Bass moved that APNEP staff require that the P.S. Jones and Manteo projects be reviewed with regard to their functionality by Cooperative Extension or Natural Resources Conservation Service staff, and that funding for the projects be withheld if the grantees decline. Marty Wiggins seconded. The motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next CAC meeting was set for Oct.20, 2006, with site and time to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Tom Stroud, CAC Vice Chair.