

MINUTES
WETLANDS REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

May 30, 2013, 5:15 p.m. Marine View Bldg 4th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Summary

Board Members Present: Hal Geiger, Andrew Campbell, Brenda Wright, Lisa Hoferkamp, Nina Horne, Amy Sumner

Board Members Absent: Dan Miller, Jerry Medina

A quorum was present.

Staff Members Present: Teri Camery, CBJ Planners

Public Present: none

Meeting called to order at 5:20 p.m.

II. March 21, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes approved with edits from Mr. Geiger, Ms. Horne, and Ms. Wright

III. Agenda was approved.

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None

V. Board Comments.

None

VI. Agenda Items

Habitat Mapping and Analysis Update; Wetland Methodology Final Scope of Work

Ms. Camery provided an overview of the current status of the LiDAR/Imagery acquisition part of the Habitat Mapping Project, and then discussed the Wetland Methodology Final Scope of Work, which is near final and currently under review with the CBJ Law Department. Ms. Camery discussed timelines, project deliverables, and the plan for meetings between Dr. Adamus, the Board, and the Habitat Mapping Working Group. She explained that CBJ's contract is highly compatible with the wetland methodology contract for Dr. Adamus through the Southeast Alaska Land Trust, and therefore CBJ and SEALTrust are able to combine efforts and reduce expenses.

The Board mentioned two minor errors in the Scope of Work, and then had a discussion about ensuring the scientific credibility and repeatability of the wetland methodology. Dr. Geiger emphasized the need for a scientific hypotheses that can be proven or disproven. The Board and staff discussed wetland classifications versus wetland categorization, and discussed how local wetland policies and regulations might be developed in the future, and how this might be affected by the state's current intention to seek wetland permitting authority from the Corps of Engineers.

Ms. Camery reminded the Board of a joint meeting between the Board, Habitat Mapping Working Group, and Dr. Adamus on June 11. Board members are encouraged but not required to attend.

Ms. Camery said that she would send the Board the wetland methodology questions before any scheduled meeting with Dr. Adamus. The Board could then select approximately 10 questions from the list for an in-depth discussion with Dr. Adamus, so Dr. Adamus can explain how responses to these questions measure or correlate with different habitat functions.

VII. Pending Permits and Updates

1. Board Vacancy

Ms. Camery reminded the Board that there is still a vacant seat, and the application process is on-going through the city's website.

2. Statter Harbor.

Ms. Camery explained the Planning Commission's denial of the project, followed by Reconsideration, followed by continuation, to the next meeting on June 11. Ms. Camery described the public and Planning Commission's concern regarding the lack of landscaping and public amenities, and described possible efforts to address these issues even though the applicant cannot increase the amount of intertidal fill. Efforts might include vegetating the rip-rap, which has been done successfully in tidal areas, and placing trees amongst the parking spaces.

2. Other Permits

Ms. Camery noted that the Lemon Creek Gravel Extraction permit has expired and she expects the applicant, SECON, to apply for another one soon.

VIII. Planning Commission Liaison Update.

None.

IX. Next meeting: June 20, 5:15 p.m., City Hall room 224.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.