



Fayetteville Council of Neighborhoods

6-19-2008

Attending

Sarah Lewis	Sang Valley
Bob Caulk	Mt. Sequoyah South
Ethel Simpson	University Heights
Susan Jenkins	Elm/Easton/Baker
Skip	Morning News
Dave Jurgens	Waste Water Director
Michael Thomas	Sunset Woods
Nancy Williams	
Jo Anne Kvamme	Root School NA
Bruce Shackelford	Speaker

Introduction

Dave introduced the speaker Bruce Shackelford

Woolsey Wetlands Presentation

- 25 acres have been developed and 80 acres more are not dedicated so they hope to expand the wetlands
- Waste water plant is on Broyles between Highways 16 and 62 and the wetland is to the north
- In 50 years they hope to have 150 acres of green natural restored wetland. Waste management is now looking at what is viable for the future
- New waste treatment plant went on line June 1, 2008
- The wetland project was started in October 2005
- The America in Bloom group will go to visit the site on 6-20-2008
- Mr. Shackelford writes the specs for the contractors so they know exactly what needs done to comply with the environmental needs of the project

Woolsey Wet Prairie Sanctuary "Banking on the Future by Restoring the Past"

- Fayetteville now has two waste water treatment plants
- There are some inevitable impacts and the site was originally prairie wetland so they focused on the prairie pipples that indicated prairie wetland

- Army Core of Engineers must evaluate the wetlands project there will be 9.8 acres that will be permanently altered and must be put into wetland using the Charleston Method and need 80.8 "credits" from the impact
- There are various ways to get the "credits" needed
- The project must submit a mitigation plan and the one submitted actually plans for 110 "credits"
- The Core used to insist on 2 X what was being destroyed would be replaced now they look at function and value also
- Hydrology Mitigation Plan
 - 11.34 ac. Wet meadow
 - 3.06 ac. Forested wetland
 - 12.22 ac upland buffer
- We are creating large surfaces so large variety of plants
- Since the area ranges from mostly dry to marsh we needed a hydrological model to see if the area could sustain a wetland and could it sustain various species of vegetation
- We want to create what the Woolsey's saw in 1830's
- Tall grass prairies (less than 1%) remain now) there were 100,000 ac. Of prairie in 1800 this has largely been transferred to wheat fields and then orchards in NW Arkansas
- After the Louisiana Purchase of 1803 the area started to be surveyed and in 1831-1838 they surveyed this area (taken from H. Miller's 1972 Thesis in Anthropology at the University of Arkansas) It shows more open area than today
- Savannahs' now only have about .02% left
- Types of fauna that were here include passenger pigeons (were billions now extinct), Carolina parakeets (now extinct), Henslow's Sparrows (possibly extinct), Prairie Chickens (here until the early 1900's), Easter Elk (vanished in 1830's)
- Use soils from the area to build the berms and the overflow from the wetlands goes to Owl Creek and the effluent from the plant goes to Goose Creek.
- Before could plant native plants they had to get rid of the invasive species so they burned and used mild herbicide and let nature take over.
- The area went from 47 to 294 plant species and the soil is changing to wetland soil now
- There are seven new species of plants and lots of birds
- We are in the process of doing the mitigation proposal to develop the rest of the area and try to get credits for the future using a Single Client Credit Bank – Fayetteville would be the first city to have one.
- They need to find funds to finish the project and we can help by voicing our support once things are approved.
- The area is not open to the public yet.

Code Compliance

Julie discussed Codes compliance and we can go to the city website for more information

- Sometimes there is money to help fix up unsightly, unsafe building and to remove rubbish
- " Dirty Dozen Cartoon Activity Book – free from the city can get off the website
- If we have problems with occupancy it is hard to prove but best to report on line since the complaints are tracked so can keep a better record of problems
- Call Julie if need help with Code Compliance the city has programs that can sometimes help

Meetings well be moved to 6:00 pm starting next month Michael moved, Bob seconded and all agreed

Sarah needs names of folks who want to help with the Mayoral debate – Bob will help with suggestions since he has been on the committee before - would be nice if we could have it at the university

July 17th Next FCON Meeting

Bob Caulk will speak on the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Commission

Fire Marshalls will now be coming to our meetings

July 7th a new Fire Sub Station will open in Happy Hollow area

City video will now host our meetings

Meeting adjourned 7:05 pm