

Natural Resources Committee

2006 Annual Committee Report

February 20, 2007

Membership:

Bruce Caverly – Chairman
Guy Yates – Vice Chairman
Ray Beal
Bob Case
Paul Newall
Lynn Sackett
Ruth Kosoglow

Board Liaisons:

GINNA WATSON & WAYNE MORRISON

Staff Representatives:

STEVE WHITE – PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DIRECTOR
BRENDA PATE - SECRETARY

The Natural Resources Committee in 2006 was stable with 7 members attending almost every meeting. Wayne Morrison was our Board Liaison replacing Ginna Watson last fall.

Ruth Kosoglow joined the NRC Committee in May replacing Henry Browder.

Different members attended each of the Newcomers meetings and presented an overview of the NRC, its function, policies and guidelines regarding Common Property.

2005 was a busy year for the NRC. During the year we routinely handled resident requests to clean up common property (Class I), cut trees on Common Property (Class II) or dredge lake bottoms around boat docks (Class III) permits and investigated complaints pertaining to the miss-use of common property. The following is a summary of permits issued with pre and post inspections completed.

NRC Permits Issued January 2006 to December 2006

Class I Permits - 20
Class II Permits - 17
Class III Permits - 3
Complaints - 9
Total of all permits and complaints handled in 2006 - 49
Total of all permits and complaints handled in 2005 - 31
Total of all permits and complaints handled in 2004 - 25

We had almost a 40% increase in the number of permit applications to process over last year and all were handled in an expedient manor with the exception of a couple due to NRC members being on vacations and out of the Village.

An increasing number of complaints were submitted regarding the miss-use of common property. These were handled by a majority of the NRC Members reviewing the situation and visiting the site along with Sam Harper, the complaint investigator and Steve White from Planning and Inspections. All were resolved and brought back into compliance with common property policy guidelines.

The NRC also tracks deer incident reports and history through reports to the Public Safety Department.

Deer Incident Reports and History

2000 – 25	2004 - 33
2001 – 16	2005 - 35
2002 – 21	2006 - 49
2003 – 21	

While we had an increase in deer incidents in 2006, our annual deer count does not indicate a marked increase in deer population over prior years. This increase most likely can be attributed to a number of factors;

- 1.) Increase number of residents and traffic on our roadways
- 2.) Expanding population base at the east end of the Village
- 3.) Incidents were evenly spaced out throughout the year with the exception of Nov. and Dec. These two months accounted for 22 of the 49.

Besides handling the normal functions under our charter, we continued developing our **2VI (Village Visual Image)** sub committee programs. We had 12 members from the NRC, PWC, GAC, ACC, PW, PR, P&I, Public Safety and administration departments. We were developing two plans simultaneously,

- 1.) Redesign of the East Gate Entrance and
- 2.) Programs to help reduce the trash and debris along HSV roadsides.

The East Gate program consisted of modifications to Hwy. 5 at the HSV entrance, widening Desoto Blvd to accommodate increased traffic and redesigning the landscaping features of that entrance. Thanks to Paul Day, GAC, Bob Kostelecky, PWC, Randy Noles, PW and Dave Johnson, Admin. we met with the Hwy. Dept in April and May and they agreed with our suggestions for Hwy 5 and they completed the changes in July. The only change would be that we, (HVS) will have to install the slow down right turn lane coming from Benton with an approved State permit. We presented our suggestions and recommendations on the East Gate to the BOD in May 2006; unfortunately the balance of the East Gate Program has been put on hold until a plan for the entire Desoto Blvd. can be developed. It is unfortunate that this program was put on hold considering that funding for this program was outlined when the original Forest Management Plan, and the revenue it generates, was presented to the BOD in 2004.

The Program to reduce Trash and Debris was headed up by Guy Yates and the 12-member committee developed many ideas and suggestions. Guy followed up with meetings with the club council on possibly increasing in the number of times a year they do roadside pickup. Additionally he met with Garland County Beautification committees to see if any of their programs would be beneficial for implementation in HSV. We also discussed better enforcement of trash and debris blowing out of trucks and trailers traveling around the village. Violators should be reported to the Police Department for their follow up and enforcement.

At this point, the 2VI sub committee has done all it set out to accomplish and is disbanded until additional assistance is requested from either the Board of Directors or Staff.

The **Forest Management Plan** for Common Property is well underway with phases 1 & 2 now completed. Phase 3 is underway with Steve White and Bill Walker along with Ray Beal all working well together. To date, the program has generated in excess of \$400 K to the POA.

At the request of several interested groups, Ray Beal and myself have made several presentations on our Forest Management Plan. Our objective is to make sure our residents understand that we are responsibly managing our valuable renewable resource with no adverse affects to the Village.

We continue to work with the ACC and Lakes and Water Management Committee on issues of common interest and have had good cooperation.

We will loose 1 members of our committee in April 2007. Ray Beal has completed 7 of service on the Committee. Ray would like to continue to work with the Forest Management Program and as a special advisor to the NRC which the NRC welcomes his enthusiasm and expertise.

We currently are interviewing 2 candidates to replace Ray and will provide a recommendation to the BOD in March.

In closing, the committee would like to sincerely thank Brenda Pate, our secretary, Sam Harper, our complaint investigator and Steve White, Planning & Inspections Dept. Director for all their help and assistance during this past year. Their prompt handling of agendas, meeting minutes, permit request submissions, complaint resolution and replies to residents have been exceptional. Additionally, we would like to thank Dave Whitlow and Randy Noles from the PW Department, Gene Kerr & Bob Kostelecky, PW Committee and Dave Johnston for their help and assistance with the 2VI Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Caverly

Bruce Caverly
Chairman, Natural Resources Committee
February 20, 2007

This report submitted to: POA Board of Directors

With copies to: NRC Committee Members
Brenda Pate, Sam Harper, Steve White