

FEAB MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 13th, 2023

3:00 p.m. in the Public Utilities Conference Room, 555 South Section Street

Member Attendees: Gary Gover, Jim Horner, Ben Frater, Amy Paulson, Nigel Temple, Jennifer Foutch, Nicole Love

Members not in attendance:

None

City of Fairhope: Kim Burmeister -Planning and Zoning Department

City Council: None

Honored Guests: Anna Keene Miller, Keen Living; Dr. Steven Scyphers, University of South Alabama; Carole Tebay, resident of Fairhope; Carl Couret, resident of Fairhope

Minutes taken by: Kim Burmeister

Amy called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Summary of meeting:

1. *Draft minutes were revised from December:*
 - a. *FEAB has representation on the Triangle steering committee (currently Nigel, previously Rick Speight)*
 - b. *The triangle project is still moving forward as previously discussed, no major changes or changes in direction, per Nicole (ESWMP representative)*
 - c. *Richard Johnson is the key City of Fairhope representative for the Triangle project*
2. *Motion approved: Anna Keene and Steven Scyphers were nominated for membership to FEAB to fill the two vacancies. There is also a 3rd membership application (Vanessa Elias) and she will be invited to attend meetings.*
3. *Nigel has created an on-line drive (google document location) for document sharing among FEAB. All FEAB members and liaisons will have access.*
4. *Amy has drafted goals for FEAB and plans to schedule another Mayor/FEAB meeting for 2023, to go over goals.*
5. *Anna has energy code information for stretch goals, which will elevate Fairhope's current building standards and resiliency.*
6. *Amy encouraged non-members to participate as "active participants" and consider inclusion on any action plans that might interest them.*
7. *FEAB suggests city consider website update and include a place for FEAB to offer information / environmental outreach items.*
8. *City should promote natural nature based features (versus bulkheads and other hardened features) with possible demonstration projects on city property.*

9. *FEAB is concerned that the City of Fairhope is not subject to its own zoning and sub regulations.*

FEAB Minutes:

December minutes were approved as amended. Gary 1st; Jim 2nd.

FEAB Membership

Amy introduced Anna and Steven as potential FEAB members to fill the two (2) vacancies.

Motion: Nominate Anna Keene Miller and Steven Scyphers as new FEAB members (Amy: 1st, Jim 2nd). Motion approved. City Council will be sent these nominations for the next Council meeting.

Amy said a 3rd application has been received (Vanessa Elia) and she will be encouraged to attend meetings.

Introductions:

Honored guest Carl Couret, a resident of Fairhope since 1991, introduced himself. He is interested in local environmental efforts. He is a retired biologist.

Invasives:

Carol brought examples of two invasives: Nandina and Coral Ardesia. She has drafted a PSA on a new aquatic invasive, Giant Salvinia. This will be discussed / reviewed at February's meeting. Once review is complete, Kim may share this on City of Fairhope's Facebook page.

Document Sharing

Nigel has set up an on line account for document sharing among FEAB and staff. Access and passwords will be assigned soon.

Triangle Property

Nicole: she is on the ESWMP and is involved in triangle development plans. The City has representation through her (she is on the watershed management planning team) and the assigned FEAB member (Nigel). Previously it was Rick Speight but he has resigned.

Mission Statement, Goals for 2023

Amy shared her draft of the revised mission statement and goals for 2023, including bios for everyone. She asked everyone to review and offer comments, suggestions. She is suggesting some items from 2022 be removed:

1. Clean Marina – work in progress. Harbor Board is working with Nicole on compliance items and final site checks. Nothing further is needed from FEAB.
2. Community Resiliency Index – City is moving forward on this and nothing further is needed from FEAB.
3. Triangle Property – underway and nothing further is needed from FEAB at this time.

Jim would like to add the Stormwater Inventory Project as a goal for 2023.

New hot topics for 2023 appear to be:

1. Native plantings (Carol)
2. Habitat and shoreline restoration, living shorelines (Nigel, Steven)
 - a. Nigel suggested Eric Sparks from MSU as a good source of information on living shorelines and potential pilot projects.
 - b. Kim suggested South Beach Park as city owned property that is problematic from erosion of the existing bulkhead; could be a good location for a living shoreline project.
3. Environmental Outreach – City website (Gary, Amy)

Amy suggested the City website could be improved with more information easily available on City environmental projects and initiatives.

Gary has a technical background and may be of some help.

Triangle property should have its own link on the website; this may be underway.

Amy asked everyone to look at the city website and suggest items of improvement for environmental education.

Kim said most environmental projects are under the Planning Dept. page. She agreed this needs to be improved with easier access, a direct location and more information.

Steven has seen success with on line surveys.

[Fairhope Planning Publications and Forms | City of Fairhope, AL \(fairhopeal.gov\)](https://www.fairhopeal.gov/fairhope-planning-publications-and-forms)

Amy suggested a potential resource for the community would be for FEAB to have a direct link on the City of Fairhope website with information access on current initiatives.

4. Meaningful participation in other groups: Amy and Gary will continue working with Baldwin County / Ashley Campbell in the draft of a standardized wetland ordinance.

FAIRHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
POC AMY PAULSON
JULY 4, 2022

DRAFT

WORKING PAPER THE CITY OF FAIRHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD 2023 ORGANIZATION AND PRIORITIES

Mission: To provide policy advice to the City Council, Mayor, and City Departments regarding environmental matters that concern the City of Fairhope.

Vision: to serve as a trusted, scientific resource providing a local environmental perspective to policy decisions to ensure environmental matters are given full consideration in the City's decision-making processes. We strive to positively affect the quality of life for all residents, their connection to our local ecosystems, and the resilience and sustainment of Fairhope as a small, yet world-class, city.

Role: the FEAB is dedicated to increasing awareness of environmental issues, offering recommendations to City administrators, and providing state-of-the-science consultation in the implementation of sustainable solutions.

The Environmental Advisory Board may review and make recommendations to the City Council, Mayor, and City Departments on environmental policy issues as follows:

- (1) Proposed ordinances and codes of an environmental nature.
- (2) Proposed changes to existing environmental ordinances and codes.
- (3) Other environmental matters affecting the City as referred to the Board by the City Council, Mayor, City Department, and public citizen stakeholders.
- (4) Relevant partnerships with other City Boards, Committees, Commissions, or other volunteer functions.
- (5) Other environmental matters affecting the City that are initiated by the Board.

Regular Meeting Timing/Location: 3-4pm on the second Friday of each month / Public Works Conference Room

Special Meetings: The FEAB invites guests to bring presentations or new discussion topics to our attention. To give guests our full attention and also adhere to our regular agenda items, these guest presentations/discussions are typically scheduled 30-minutes prior to the regular meeting and are officially publicly announced by the City Clerk in advance.

City Points of Contact: City of Fairhope, FEAB-Assigned Councilmember, Corey Martin
City of Fairhope, Special Projects and Grant Manager / Admin Dept, TBD
¹City of Fairhope, Planning and Zoning Department, Kim Burmeister
¹City of Fairhope, Planning and Zoning Department, Christina LeJeune

¹ Appointed by City to attend Board functions

Member and OFFICER Information:

- **Gary Cover, Co-Chairperson, Business Administration/Public Administration / BS Biological Science.**
Gary served in the U.S Marine Corps as an electronics instructor and worked for the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs as a manager in information technology. He is a member of the Fairhope Historic Preservation Committee, Recycling Committee, Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee, and Environmental Advisory Board. He is a member of the Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. He is a board member and officer of the Local Food Production Initiative, Inc, and Earth Day Mobile Bay, Inc. Has lived in retirement in Fairhope since 1997. *FEAB since 2006, (FEAB Chairperson "many" years).*
- **Amy Paulson, Co-Chairperson, MS Conservation and Sustainable Development / BS Ecology**
25+ years in environmental planning, including the evaluation of project environmental impacts for private corporation site development and for federal decisions under the National Environmental Policy Act; sustainability, resiliency, habitat and watershed management plans; pollution prevention and environmental compliance; military installation master planning; renewable energy systems; and conflict negotiation and facilitation. Worked special environmental projects for the Environmental Protection Agency; the Mayor of Denver, CO; and various federal, state, local, and international agencies. *FEAB since 2019.*
- **Kim Burmeister, City Liaison, Biology / USACE Wetlands Delineation Certified and Qualified Credentialed Inspector - MS4 Management Certified**
27+ years working for the City of Fairhope, initially with Public Works and currently with the Planning and Zoning Department as the Code Enforcement Officer (since 2006). *City FEAB liaison since 2006.*
- **Christina LeJeune, City Liaison, Master Environmental Educator, Certified Alabama Water Watch tester (pathogens), Qualified Credentialed Inspector**
8+ years working for the City of Fairhope, currently as a Planning and Zoning Enforcement officer (since 2018) and previously as Correction Officer for Fairhope Police Department.
- **Jim Horner, Engineer**
After serving in the U. S. Navy, Jim was employed as an engineer for Scott Paper Company in Mobile and then in St. Louis, MO, and Appleton, WI, again doing technical service work for the paper industry. He and his wife returned to Alabama through the rest of his working career and into retirement. Jim's focus in the FEAB has been mainly on the regulation and control of stormwater run-off. *FEAB since 2003 (FEAB Director 9 years).*
- **Ben Frater, MS Fish and Wildlife Biology / BS Biology**
25+ years in environmental mitigation and habitat management. Moved from Panama City, FL to work on Deepwater Horizon-related restoration projects through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Gulf Restoration Office. Currently serves as the Chief of Planning and Compliance for the Department of the Interior on activities throughout the Gulf related to the RESTORE Act, NRDA, and Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund. Earlier in his Fish and Wildlife Service career, Ben worked with city and county planners to permit mitigation banks and habitat conservation preserves for endangered species in CA and FL. Ben has also worked many years in fisheries management and as a Forest Planner for the U.S Forest Service. His love for his community and interest in outdoor recreation, compromise, urban conservation, and green space drew him to volunteer for FEAB. He lives with his wife and three daughters within walking distance to many gullies and the Fly

Creek/Dyas property, and he is eager to see them properly celebrated as a lure to citizens and visitors to Fairhope. *FEAB since 2017.*

- **Jennifer Foutch, JD / BA in Administration of Justice and Political Science**
24+ years, including practicing law criminal law in Perry County, Illinois for over 18 years. She held positions as the Assistant State's Attorney and then as the Public Defender for Perry County, IL. In 2016, she relocated to Fairhope with her husband and two daughters. She is currently licensed as a member of the Alabama Bar, and she is a member of the Baldwin County Bar Association. She is employed as the Association Executive Officer for the Baldwin Realtors Association. *FEAB since 2021.*
- **Nigel Temple, Ph.D. Coastal Restoration Ecology**
10+ years developing, implementing, and managing research projects related to freshwater and coastal ecology, conservation, restoration, environmental engineering, sensor development, science communication, nutrient management, and other drivers of events, relevant to restoration and conservation project outcomes, and development and implementation of robust project monitoring programs. Current work is focused on the development, permitting, and installation of small- to large-scale living shorelines projects and monitoring of success criteria while also developing novel research on coastal resilience issues. *FEAB since 2021.*
- **Nicole Love, MS Biology**
20+ years in the environmental field working in state government, non-profit, and the private sector. Nicole brings an extensive environmental background as well as community outreach and engagement experience to the Board that will assist our communication of scientific data and research out to the general public and increase support for important City projects. *FEAB from X-X and since 2022.*
- **Anna Keene Miller, BA Environmental Studies**
10+ years in the environmental field, Anna is a building consultant specializing in energy efficiency and indoor air quality. Her experience ranges from residential retrofit consulting to above-code certifications for new construction. Anna's company, Keen Living, provides technical support, HVAC design, and field verification for high performance building projects. She is a RESNET HERS Rater, Fortified Evaluator, and a National Green Building Standard (NGBS) Verifier. Keen Living was a key partner on the first two homes in the country to achieve both the Zero Energy Ready Home and Fortified Hurricane Gold certifications. This includes the 2021 Mobile Bay Magazine Inspiration Home, a Department of Energy Housing Innovation Award winner that combines affordable design strategies with solar + battery storage to use over 70% less energy than a code-built home. Anna serves on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Gulf Housing Committee, Green Coast Council Sustainability Summit Planning Committee, and the South Alabama Land Trust Native Habitat Steering Committee. She advocates for sustainable development at the local level and strives to improve the quality of housing throughout the Gulf Coast. *FEAB from 2008 – 2010 and 2023; CoF Recycling Committee, 2013 – 2015*
- **Dr. Steven B. Scyphers**
Associate Professor in the School of Marine & Environmental Sciences and Director of the Center for Socio-Environmental Resiliency at the University of South Alabama, and he is a [Senior Marine Scientist II at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab](#). Steven's research integrates ecology and sociology to understand and overcome major challenges facing coastal communities. His work focuses on sustainable coastal fisheries, shoreline development, ecosystem restoration, and climate adaptation. He lives in Fairhope with his wife Mallory and daughters Hadley and Maren. *FEAB from 2023.*

Active Participants

- **Carole Tebay**

After gardening with native plants for almost 50 years, I relish sharing the possibilities of benefiting the local ecosystem by including native plants in our home landscapes. As a member of the [speakers bureau](#) with the Santa Rosa County, FL Master Gardeners I was able to share my message with others. Before moving to Fairhope, I was active with the Longleaf Chapter of the Native Plant Society and a longtime board member of the Francis M Weston Chapter of the Audubon Society. In Santa Rosa County I served on the RESTORE Council which reviewed potential projects and expenditures under the RESTORE Act and solicited public input. As a volunteer with the Friends of Pensacola State Parks, I led weekly bird walks through Big Lagoon State Park. A certification through the County Extension Program as a Florida Master Naturalist has allowed me to participate in many [citizen science](#) projects on plastics, invasives, oysters, terrapins, and seagrasses. Since moving to Fairhope, I've become active with the South Alabama Land Trust Natural Habitat Steering Committee. Our current projects include developing a native habitat certification checklist, offering tours of homes using native plants, a book club discussion group on Douglas Tallamy's Bringing Nature Home, and Zoom sessions with Dr Tallamy. I participate with the Baldwin County Extension Master Environmental Educator Program teaching their Backyard Wildlife Habitat lessons to elementary school classes.

2022 Priorities: The FEAB 2022 focus issues will largely continue the priorities established in 2021.

Green highlighted sections denote successfully completed past actions.

These select initiatives are chosen to organize our energy, monthly agenda, action items, individual labor, Board discussions, and local government interactions. Additional priorities may be added to this list as they arise. Note that POCs are designated to lead an effort but may be assisted by other FEAB members or assemble a community subcommittee as desired.



PRIORITY ISSUE	DESIRED OUTCOMES	ACTION ITEMS	FEAB LEAD
Greenspace Establishment and Management	(1) City of Fairhope establishes a network of protected greenspace by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intentionally planning / selecting parcels, including restoration or enhancement. Intentionally maintaining and protecting parcels for designated outcomes and uses. Intentionally interconnecting green spaces across the City and beyond. 	a. Maintain involvement in development of Land Use Plan b. Continually champion the implementation and guidance determined in Final LUP. c. Partner with SALT and other entities to continuously identify and promote specific areas for greenspace protection. d. Revise City of Fairhope Parks Brochure.	Ben Frater Amy Paulson Darrel Williams Jim Horner
(1) <i>Dyas Triangle</i>	(1) City of Fairhope makes definitive decision and initiates action on Dyas Triangle restoration and public use. (2) Deed language is appropriate to fully protect designated uses. (3) Dyas Triangle is restored to appropriate ecological endpoint and developed as greenspace for the City of Fairhope.	a. Provide FEAB Resolution with recommendations to initiate Dyas Planning process. b. Assist in legal designation of Park property. c. Focus on Plan input <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in natural resource land management (Restoration and Maintenance Plan) Engage in Recreation Plan and compatible use designations. 	
(2) <i>Colony Park</i>	(1) City of Fairhope makes definitive decision and re-initiates past action on Colony Park restoration and public use. (2) Colony Park is intentionally maintained as functional floodplain ecosystem and greenspace for the City of Fairhope.	a. Provide FEAB Resolution with recommendations to initiate Colony Park Planning process. b. Focus on Plan input <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in natural resource land management (Restoration and Maintenance Plan) Engage in Recreation Plan and compatible use designations. 	
Fairhope Wetlands Protection	(1) City of Fairhope is empowered and equipped to protect local wetland resources. (2) Subdivision regulations are congruent with City of Fairhope Wetland Ordinance	a. Assist Erik Cortinas, City of Fairhope Building Official, in planning charrette for City of Fairhope Wetlands Ordinance review. b. Communicate benefits, value, and function of Grady Ponds. c. Develop language for zoning and subdivision regulations regarding wetlands protection standards. d. Engage with Baldwin County for out-of-jurisdiction area coordination and assistance.	Nigel Temple Darrel Williams

PRIORITY ISSUE	DESIRED OUTCOMES	ACTION ITEMS	FEAB LEAD
Community Resiliency Index	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The City of Fairhope rescopes the 2017 Community Resilience Index (CRI) in light of 2020 hurricane season. (2) The City sets triggers (e.g., Cat 2 hurricane makes landfall within 50 miles) or schedule for future update. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Designate City liaison for effort (i.e., Cory champions, Mayor partners, Departments participate) b. Review/prepare materials c. Schedule review d. Perform review e. Document and communicate findings f. Provide to Comprehensive Land Use team to incorporate into planning process 	Nicole Love
Meaningful Participation in City Planning Efforts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The FEAB provides Meaningful participation in ongoing City planning efforts, including designating FEAB liaison to participate in/report on the following Plans. (2) The FEAB provides objective input to City governing members on these initiatives. 		ALL
(1) <i>Eastern Shore Watershed Management Plan (ESWMP)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) FEAB is champion of, and active participant in, development and ongoing implementation of ESWMP. (2) ESWMP implementation recommendations are continuously pursued and implemented by City of Fairhope. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Attend all stakeholder group meetings. b. Provide FEAB Resolution with compiled recommendations on draft documents for WMP Study Team. c. Report ongoing progress to FEAB. 	Kim Burmeister Nicole Love
(2) <i>Land Use Plan (LUP)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) FEAB is champion of, and active participant in, development and ongoing implementation of City of Fairhope Comprehensive LUP. (2) City of Fairhope policy, zoning, and permitting decisions are continuously informed by LUP. (3) City of Fairhope establishes, protects, and links greenspace areas. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Attend all stakeholder group meetings. b. Provide FEAB Resolution with compiled recommendations on draft documents for LUP Study Team c. Report ongoing progress to FEAB. 	Ben Frater
Recycling	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) City of Fairhope has functional, reliable, and economical recycling system / partnerships. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist in brokering partnerships among contributing jurisdictions and accepting businesses. b. Assist in marketing and communicating revamped and revitalized recycling process. c. Reestablish recycling subcommittee as part of FEAB. 	Jennifer Foutch
Clean Marina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Fairhope Marina is operated to selected Clean Marina standards. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist Harbor Board in selecting and implementing relevant commitments. 	Rick Speight Jim Horner Gary Gover

PRIORITY ISSUE	DESIRED OUTCOMES	ACTION ITEMS	FEAB LEAD
Maintain connection to / relationship with Fairhope governing bodies	(1) FEAB offers relevant, dependable, and consistent support to City governing entities. (2) City governing entities access FEAB for support, perspectives, or recommendations.	a. Attend appropriate meetings. b. Report relevant items to FEAB for consideration and Resolution c. Communicate FEAB recommendations and initiatives	
(1) Mayor's Office			Gary Gover / Amy Paulson
(2) City Council			Jennifer Foutch / Corey Martin
(3) City Departments			Kim Burmeister / Christina LeJeune
(4) Baldwin County Environmental Advisory Committee			Kim Burmeister
(5) [Daphne ~ Fairhope ~ Baldwin County EB Cross-committee]			Amy Paulson / Gary Gover
2022 Successes (CLOSED-ISH PRIORITIES)			<input type="checkbox"/>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean Marina Project – Nicole, Jim, Gary 2. Community Resiliency Index – Nicole (January) 3. Greenspace: Triangle Property – Ben 4. Engagement / Introduction to Fairhope Committees – to continue? 			
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Potential New Topics:

1. Wetlands collaboration project from Baldwin County Coalition of EABs. Note that LID, Red Clay will follow as priorities after wetlands and streams.
2. City Website: review for adequacy/update for wetlands and other outreach materials – Nicole
3. Future Topics / Sustainable Community Initiatives
 - a. Habitat (and Shorelines?)
 - i. Native Planting (was Darrell, but he's a deadbeat)
 - ii. Habitat enhancements for Winn Dixie pond – Nigel
 - iii. Develop sustainable municipal support structures to benefit Fairhope's creatures – Gary (e.g., bird boxes (bluebird and purple martin); pollinator habitat)
 - iv. Living Shorelines – Gary, Nigel
 - v. Land use plan, continuation
 - b. Energy Conservation Initiatives (climate change action) – Anna, Gary
 - i. Green building codes, incentives, and stretch goals – Anna
 - ii. Fairhope "Green Neighborhood" designation – stretch goals incentive?
 - iii. Solar panel roadblocks
 - iv. De-incentivizing Natural Gas – Gary
 - v. School Buses: \$500 million in Federal funding to replace diesel school buses with electric and low-emission. Recommended to Baldwin County Public Schools Superintendent and our district member of the School Board. - Gary
 - c. Water Quality
 - i. Microplastics – Kim/Gary (also in WWTP sludge)
 - ii. Oil in our Stormwater – Gary
 - iii. PFAS – Gary (well 4; AFFF discharge sites include airport, firefighting facilities, and WWTP / sludge to agriculture)
 - iv. US Highway 98 Fly Creek Bridge – Gary
 - v. Alternative pavements (streets, sidewalks, bike paths) – Gary
 - d. Engage new partnerships / revisit other Boards w/2023 engagements – Gary / Amy
 - i. Master Gardeners
 - ii. ACF Green Coast Council
 - iii. Fairhope Public Utilities
 - iv. Recycling Committee
 - v. Historic Preservation
 - vi. (Re)visit Bike and Ped, Harbor Board, Recreation Board

Council Meeting Attendance Schedule and Talking Points:

Amy shared the draft:

SCHEDULE AND TALKING POINTS		
THE CITY OF FAIRHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD		
ATTENDANCE AT BI-MONTHLY CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS: 2022 – 2023		
Attendance Schedule		
Date – Second and Fourth Monday of Every Month	FEAB Assigned Representative	
Second January	Amy Paulson	
Fourth January	Nigel Temple	
Second February	Ben Frater	
Fourth February	Nicole Love	
Second March	Gary Gover	
Fourth March	Jennifer Foutch	
Second April	Jim Horner	
Fourth April	Anna Miller	
Second May	Stephen Syphers	
Fourth May	Carole Tebay*	
Second June	Nicole Love	
Fourth June	Nigel Temple	
Second July	Ben Frater	
Fourth July	Amy Paulson	
Second August	Gary Gover	
Fourth August	Jennifer Foutch	
Second September	Jim Horner	
Fourth September	Anna Miller	
Second October	Stephen Syphers	
Fourth October	Carole Tebay*	
Second November	Gary Gover	
Fourth November	Jennifer Foutch	
Second December	Jim Horner	
Fourth December	Anna Miller	

*Carole is not an official voting member of FEAB and therefore cannot speak directly for the Board. However, she is a subject matter expert for green building and should be engaged as relevant.

Procedure / Purpose:

- Before Council meeting:
 - **PREPARE**
 - Get on City email list to receive agenda before meeting (contact the City Clerk's office at 251-928-2136 or lisa.hanks@fairhopeal.gov). Agenda may be available at COF website (but don't count on it): <https://www.fairhopeal.gov/government/agendas-minutes/city-council-4032>
 - *If agenda includes any discussion on FEAB 2022 priority focal issues, contact FEAB issue POC to assess relevance of swapping attendance (see talking points below).*
 - Assigned FEAB representative attends on their day OR swaps with another *in advance*. It is the assigned representative's responsibility to find a replacement.
 - Bring most recent version of messaging sheet / talking points to meeting.
 - It is often very beneficial to attend the working Session that occurs prior to the meeting. Attendance is recommended, but it is a time commitment so whether you want to go to both is your decision.
- At Council meeting:
 - **OBSERVE** discussion, including:
 - Any topics identified as 2022 FEAB Priority Focal issues.
 - New environmental issues faced by City.
 - Any other issues that may have indirect impacts on the environment but were not identified as such or otherwise highlighted during Council discussion.
 - **PARTICIPATE**. The purposes of FEAB regular attendance are:
 - *to support Councilman Martin with environmental expertise*
 - *to speak on 2022 FEAB priority issues as needed (see talking points below)*
 - *to alert Council and City where environmental issues may be relevant and FEAB could further assist*
 - *to thank / acknowledge / support Councilmembers when appropriate environmental action is taken or decision is made*
 - *to inform FEAB of relevant meeting details*
 - **REPORT**. Communicate back to FEAB:
 - Be prepared to present short discussion of relevant items at next FEAB monthly meeting.
 - If immediate response was requested on a given issue, email group directly or contact Amy to help identify POC and communicate issue / next steps.

Talking Points / Messages:

Greenspace Establishment and Management

- **POC:** Ben Frater
- **INTENT:** City of Fairhope establishes a network of protected greenspace by 1) selecting natural areas to maintain, restore, or enhance AND 2) planning and maintaining areas for compatible designated natural outcomes and recreational uses.
 - Many natural area goals are compatible with multi-use recreation goals IF the area is well planned and appropriately maintained.
 - Mixed use is vulnerable to failure without proper planning – resource will degrade, upkeep will be costly or ineffective (i.e., erosion, weeds, growth inhibition).
 - FEAB has a joint subcommittee with the bike and ped board to help identify new parcels to recommend.
 - There are a variety of means to acquire, control, or otherwise use private property for public use (i.e., purchase and City-maintenance is not always required). FEAB can provide further detail as needed.
 - World-class cities all have intentionally interconnected green spaces – increases quality of life and property values.
- **PRIOR FEAB INVOLVEMENT:**
 - *Dyas Triangle* – we assisted the Council and Mayor by providing deed research, recommended deed restrictions, and provided several Resolutions regarding possible ways forward for planning and design.
 - *Colony Park* – we have provided Council and Mayor with previous Management Plan (Single Tax 2010) and Resolutions regarding recommended ways forward for planning and design.
 - *Land Use Plan* – we provided an extensive, detailed recommendation letter to the [City](#) and the LUP consultant planning team. We have several members serve on the LUP Steering Committee, and most of the FEAB attended at least one planning workshop, charette, or presentation.

Fairhope Wetlands Protection

- **POC:** Amy Paulson
- **INTENT:** City of Fairhope is empowered and equipped to protect local watershed resources.
 - FEAB is working with Daphne and the County to standardize minimum wetlands protection and best management practice language across the County (draft language expected by the end-2022).
 - FEAB is available to assist the review and adoption of revised COF wetlands ordinance and subdivision ordinance.

Coastal Community Resilience Index

- **POC:** Nicole Love
- **INTENT:** The City of Fairhope rescors the 2017 Coastal Community Resilience Index (CRI) in light of 2020 hurricane season and other upgrades and improvements.
 - The CRI is a tool to showcase improvements made and identify remaining challenges that could be corrected in advance of the next major storm.
 - The CRI is a Mississippi Sea Grant-facilitated event where City employees and other knowledgeable officials evaluate if their community will reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning after a disaster.

- The CRI is a step toward preparing the City to [enter into](#) the Community Rating System (CRS), which ultimately could result in the lowering of flood insurance premiums for all citizens of the City.
- **PRIOR FEAB INVOLVEMENT:**
 - The Council and Mayor have approved the next CRI scoring, to occur in approximately Jan-Feb 2023.

Eastern Shore Watershed Management Plan

- **POC:** Nicole Love
- **INTENT:** A watershed-wide approach to identify problems that threaten the quality of receiving waters and recommends prioritized solutions to those problems.
 - The Plan includes the Cities of Fairhope and Daphne and will provide recommendations for projects and potential funding solutions.
- **FEAB INVOLVEMENT:**
 - Nicole Love is on the Project Team for the Plan. Amy Paulson was on the Project Team and is a member of the Steering Committee. Several members have provided input into the Plan.

Recycling

- **POC:** Jennifer Foutch
- **INTENT:** City has functional, reliable, and economical partnerships and a well-communicated recycling system with high-participation rate.
- **FEAB INVOLVEMENT:** We are available to:
 - Assist in brokering partnerships among contributing jurisdictions and accepting businesses.
 - Assist in marketing and communicating revamped and revitalized recycling process.
 - Reestablish recycling subcommittee as part of FEAB.

Clean Marina

- **POC:** Nicole Love
- **INTENT:** Fairhope Marina is a designated Clean Marina and operated under selected Clean Marina standards.
 - Clean Marina is a voluntary program that gives managers the resources they need to minimize pollution.
 - The designation results a “Certified Alabama-Mississippi Clean Marina” and helps to reduce costs associated with waste disposal and attracting responsible boaters.
- **FEAB INVOLVEMENT:** FEAB is available to assist Harbor Board upon request in selecting and implementing relevant commitments to achieve Clean Marina standards. Designation is anticipated early-2023.

City Exemptions on Zoning and Subdivision Regulations

Gary had a recent email conversation with Hunter Simmons, Planning and Zoning Director. Gary is concerned because the City of Fairhope may not be subject to local regulations, such as the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

Stretch Building Codes

Anna discussed our stretch goals could benefit the existing Fairhope Building Code. These would be voluntary. Incentives would help encourage residents and builders to strive for stretch goals. This could help with resiliency in Fairhope.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Next meeting is Friday, February 10th @ 3 p.m. @ Library Board Room.

FEAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chairman:

Gary Gover govers@bellsouth.net (251) 990-8662

Co-Chair:

Amy Paulson amy.paulson@yahoo.com (251) 654-7401

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