

FEAB MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2018
3:00 p.m.
Delchamps Room, Fairhope, AL

Member Attendees: Mike Shelton, Gary Gover, Nicole Love, Jeanine Normand, Ron Allen

City of Fairhope: Kim Burmeister, Planning and Zoning Department

Honored Guests: Jim Horner, Ben Frater

Minutes taken by: Kim Burmeister

FEAB MEMBERS/MEETINGS/ MINUTES:

December's meeting minutes were approved with minor amendments: Remove Tony Pritchett's name as the member that has resigned (and instead add Terry Hargroder as member who has resigned); remove Terry's information from contact list at end of minutes. Add Ben Frater as resident who has applied for FEAB membership.

Mike introduced honored guest: Jim Horner (past FEAB chairman and resident of Fly Creek) and Ben Frater. Ben has applied for FEAB membership. FEAB can have 10 members according to by-laws and if Ben is accepted, there will be 8 FEAB members. There are still two vacancies. If you know of anyone interested please encourage them to attend an upcoming FEAB meeting and apply for membership.

New Member Nomination

*****Motion: Ron made a motion to recommend Ben Frater as new member of FEAB (pending council approval). Nicole seconded the motion. Passed unanimously*****

Discussion of Items:

1. **Bay Keeper Bacteria sampling of Fly Creek:** Mike referred to the City-sponsored Mobile Bay Keeper Fly Creek sampling plan which was handed out at the December meeting. Locations of sampling are included and results are posted as of 12/7/2017. Mike will ask Richard Peterson to copy him / FEAB on sampling since 12/7 and future sampling results. One sampling site had high readings (Fly Creek @ State Highway 181). Mike hopes they will include rain event sampling in the future. Also Mike has a concern that Mobile Bay Keepers is doing the sampling and not a certified testing lab. Gary thought the sampling plan lacked relationship between tides and rain events. Mike said the sampling plan emulates beach testing (ADEM) which looks for levels of enterococcus. It is not tracking the source. Currently sampling plan does not reflect any provisions for sewer or septic tank overflows. Jim Horner lives on Fly Creek (Volanta Avenue) and seconded the concern over the lack of rain event testing at Fly Creek. This is usually when the worst case scenarios show up. Ron asked if FEAB could request that rain event sampling be included? Gary said rain event sampling should be triggered after 2" rain events. Kim noted that the ADEM standard for rain event testing on construction sites is .75". Jeanine noted that the Fairhope Docks marina pump out and fuel docks are not currently in operation. Kim said she thinks marina has applied for a 75/25 grant to have a new pump out installed. Nicole asked if FEAB should supply Bay Keepers with historical data on Fly Creek sampling. Mike said AL Water Watch on line has historical water sampling data but Fly Creek area has not been sampled by AL Water Watch since 2014. AL Water Watch tests for e coli not enterococcus. Entero testing is a better indicator for fecal coliform but there is not a volunteer program for entero testing, only e. coli testing. We need new volunteers for this area (Fairhope Docks @ Fly Creek). Mike has (6) sampling kits available (purchased by City) if anyone is interested in taking this on. He can provide volunteer training for e. coli waster testing. Mike suggested that the Fairhope Docks marina operator would be the most likely person to do the testing since he is on site. It would be difficult for a volunteer to be on site during or right after a rain event for sampling. Jeanine said the City should be encouraged to make sure this happens (sampling at marina/Fairhope Docks). ADEM beach testing (at designated locations) is weekly from May – October and monthly during other months.
*****Motion made by Ron: Mobile Bay Keepers shall include climatic and weather / tidal information in sampling plan and results. Results should include time, date, location and rain event and tidal information. Seconded by Nicole and approved unanimously. *****

2. **Storm Drain Medallion Program:** Kim handed out a draft brochure “Storm Drain Medallion Program” and asked that FEAB review the brochure, as requested by Sherry-Lea. Please bring comments/changes/additions to February meeting. Mike commented that the watershed map within draft brochure should have parcel lines removed for clarity. Kim will request GIS to provide watershed map without parcel lines.

Nicole gave an update from Sherry-Lea on the storm drain medallion program. Nancy Raia / Eastern Shore Art Center is working with Fairhope High School Art & Environmental Class to produce the art work / posters for the storm drain medallion program. City would like FEAB to assign one or two team leaders for the medallion installation event which is tentatively set for Friday, April 20th. High School will tentatively be working on the art work on January 25th and 26th. FEAB should send a representative to attend one or both days (Mike volunteered to attend). Students will be educated on species which represent our bay (pelicans, fish, etc.) and also will be educated about the importance of the storm drain medallion program, and how it connects to the health of Mobile Bay. It will be probably at the school but that is yet to be confirmed per Sherry-Lea. According to an email from Sherry-Lea:

- a. Medallion art to be drawn by FHS no later than January 26th.
- b. Art work will be sent to manufacturer on or around February 15th.
- c. Art work will be posted at municipal buildings and in schools lab/biology classes.
- d. Social media contest for public: week of Jan. 29th
- e. Volunteers are needed to be “team leaders” at installation event on April 20th, in Stack Gully area.
- f. Earth Day is April 21st and the City will have a brochure to hand out (about the storm drain medallion program). FEAB should help decide which brochure(s) we should hand out advertising this program (draft brochure, Greener by the Bay, etc.) Also a limited number of storm drain medallions will be given out at Earth Day.
- g. The second half of the “storm drain medallion program” is an outfall assessment which will be covered by the City (MS4 annual requirement).

Jeanine suggested that the brochure, when finalized, be sent out with utility bills (or link added to reference the brochure from City web site).

Storm Water Standard Changes:

Jim Horner mentioned proposed changes to City “storm water standards”:

See first item on the Planning Commission agenda:

www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-zoning/planning-commission/2018-agenda-and-minutes

Motions (Recap):

Motions made and passed during this meeting:

1. Recommendation to Richard Peterson / Mobile Bay Keeper to amend sampling plan to include climatic and rain event information
2. Recommendation to add Ben Frater as a new member of FEAB (pending council approval)

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for **February 2th 3:00 p.m.** (Delchamps Room)

*Change of regular date due to Mardi Gras

FEAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

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