

Manteo Rotary Club Bowsertown Community Meeting Notes

Monday, January 23rd, 2006

Meeting Location: 108 Budleigh

Meeting Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting Objective: To seek and gather public input on the future community land use of the former Bowsertown landfill site.

Moderator

Tim Shearin, Manteo Rotary

Guest Speakers:

John McCord, UNC Coastal Studies Institute

Dr. Damian Shea, North Carolina State University- Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology, Department head.

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions, brief overview of evenings agenda

- Overview of the Site
 - Total site 100 + acres, buildable site approximately 13-15 acres-
 - Bowsertown became a general use landfill site sometime in the early 1960's
 - Used for things such as household waste, municipal waste, metal and C&D
 - County changed use March 1st 1982 to a transfer station, but the northern side was still used for C&D until 1990-91
 - Landfill was capped with approximately 2 feet of soil after change to transfer station
 - Transfer station will close by February, New transfer station location is on the mainland between Mann's harbor and Stumpy Point
 - Bowsertown Site will be cleared of all buildings and associated surface debris

- Overview of Manteo Rotary Club's Centennial Project
 - Manteo Rotary Club's role in project
 - Partnering agencies and their role
 - Dare county- Partnering on reclaiming land with the guidance of Manteo Rotary Club
 - N.C. Division of Water Resources- Provided funding for project and testing
 - UNC Coastal Studies Institute- Assisted with technical support, partnership formation and aided in leadership on project with Manteo Rotary Club

- North Carolina State University- Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology, Department head, Dr. Damian Shea- Performed toxicology monitoring study
- Overview of Toxicology Study and Report- Dr. Damien Shea
 - Toxicology monitoring methods
 - Report results
 - Very little contamination, levels similar to what you would find on a “pristine” site.
 - Report available by contacting the UNC Coastal Studies Institute at 252-475-3663.
- Importance of Public Visioning process
 - Two part process
 - Group input session(happening this evening) on Community needs, wants and issues surrounding development
 - Break-out session (future meeting)- smaller, issue focused meeting with topics generated from this meeting
 - Importance of public’s role in helping to determine future community use of the site
 - Recommendations will be given to Dare County
- Begin Public input session
 - Issues to be covered- All should be recorded on large chart papers
 - Needs for local community
 - Needs for Dare County
 - Issues surrounding development
- Recap
 - Recap recurrent themes from session
 - Next steps and upcoming smaller break out group session
- Adjourn

Community Input Session Notes

- Boardwalk from boat launch to sandy beach along the sound with public swimming access. Possible interpretive trail along the way.
- Create a public park using Mt. Trashmore in Virginia Beach as a model.
- Create a passive recreation area with walking trails, fitness trails, an indoor swimming site and a community center.
- Field space could be used as a soccer complex, possible circuit training trail around site, basketball courts, skateboard park, pavilion picnic area and children's playground.
- Enhance the canal and boat ramp. It was reported the county plans to dredge the boat ramp canal to 5 feet.
- Matching grants should be sought to help fund project.
- Senior Community Center or Multi-use community center
- Develop highland (spoil derived) along canal channel. Walking trail, connection to existing sidewalk . Covered benches for wildlife viewing along the way.
- Youth Sports- Youth center with after school programming, sport specific fields, gym, nature trails, kayak and water sports.
- Resident suggested approaching NOAA and EPA for matching grants to create environmental education opportunities. Consider keeping the concrete slab for reuse.
- Possible use of part of the site for staging area in the for assistance in a natural disaster.
- Look into a long term plan to integrate the 13 acres from the transfer station with the additional county acres to maximize the use of the entire 100 acre area.
- Suggestion for a dog park came from a resident after community meeting.

In Summary

The resonating theme for the future use of the site is for some type of a multi use community recreation facility.

Next Steps

This community meeting was the first step in developing recommendations for the future public use of the former Bowsertown Landfill. The next community meeting will be held at 108 Budleigh in Manteo on March 13th, 2006 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will further explore the issues, design and viability surrounding the development ideas generated from our first meeting. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. The public is also encouraged to submit additional ideas for the development of the former Bowsertown landfill for discussion at this meeting. Please mail Bowsertown use ideas by mail to:

John McCord, UNC Coastal Studies Institute

PO Box 699, Manteo, NC 27954

or by email at jmccord@csi.northcarolina.edu

Ideas should be submitted by March 6th, 2006.