



**Neighborhood Advisory Committee  
Minutes for February 21, 2022  
Council Conference Room  
395 Magnolia Road  
Pinehurst, North Carolina  
3:00 PM**

**Village of Pinehurst Representatives Present:**

John C. Strickland, Mayor  
Jeffrey M. Sanborn, Village Manager  
Jane Hogeman, Councilmember  
Patrick Pizzella, Mayor Pro Tem  
Kelly Chance, Village Clerk  
Doug Willardson, Assistant Village Manager of Administration

**Committee Members Present:**

Bert Higgins – Doral Woods	Tom Campbell – Monticello	Debbie Lalor – Downtown Residential Area
Larry Rotondo – Pinewild	Lee Thomas – Clarendon Gardens	Charles Collini – Old Town West
Lisa Bomkamp – St. Andrews	Tony Elms – Donald Ross	Edward Balkovic – Pinehurst Trace
Bill Keith – Village Acres	Barbara Reining - CCNC	

**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order.

**2. Review Minutes from January 10, 2022 Meeting.**

The committee reviewed the notes from the January 10, 2022 meeting.

**3. Village Planning Project Updates.**

Doug Willardson, Assistant Village Manager of Administration presented the Neighborhood Advisory Committee with an overview of the Fiscal Year 2022 Sidewalk Construction Plan. He stated the goal is to construct sidewalks in the Village that enhance the quality of life, make interconnections with other sidewalks and trails, and maintain the charm of the neighborhood. He noted the sidewalks will be placed in neighborhoods where they are desired, while being unobtrusive as possible to abutting yards.

Mr. Willardson reported the FY2022 Construction Budget for Sidewalks is \$375,000. He reported the Village surveyed residents living on Pine Vista and McKenzie Road from Linden Rd. to Hwy 5. He noted the survey questions were:

1. Do you support construction of new walkways?
2. What is the likelihood of using the new walkway?
3. What construction materials do you prefer: stone screenings, asphalt, or concrete?
4. Do you support walkways on your side of the street?
5. Do you support walkways on the other side of the street?

Mr. Willardson reported 80% of Pine Vista residents responded and the responses showed there was a high degree of support for new

walkways. He noted the survey results showed most residents agreed they would likely use the new walkway and their preference for construction materials were relatively equal across the board. He stated based on preference of your side or other side, consensus was the walkway should be on the north (odd-numbered) side of the road. He noted there were only two of fourteen homes opposed to the walkway on this side of the street.

Tom Campbell asked if these people were on the pathway only? Mr. Willardson stated there were approximately 35 homes surveyed, which included nearby neighbors on the cul-de-sacs.

Mr. Willardson reported 75% of McKenzie Road residents responded and the responses showed there was a high degree of support for new walkways. He noted the survey results showed most residents agreed they would use the new walkway and their preference was for construction materials were screenings. He stated based on preference of your side or other side, consensus was the walkway should be on the even-numbered side of the road (on the right if traveling from Linden Road to the Arboretum). He noted there were no respondents opposed to the walkway on this side of the street.

Mr. Willardson stated there were approximately 60 homes surveyed. Charles Collini noted there is more slope on this area and Mr. Sanborn stated we will get the engineer to look at it and determine if concrete will also be required in some places. Mr. Sanborn also stated, the Village may be able to tie this sidewalk into the existing trail. Bert Higgins asked how many linear feet is planned. Mr. Willardson stated he does not recall but both sidewalks fit within the budget we have because screenings cost substantially less than the other two choices.

Mayor Strickland stated he was surprised that screening was the choice, because in other neighborhoods it appeared the preference was for brick, which was more expensive. He stated the Village is trying to do things in our Village to help restore these pathways that have been here for so long. He noted Jack Farrell, Planning Board, works with Parks and Recreation Director Mark Wagner and Assistant Village Manager Jeff Batton, to identify some of the clay paths where the line of sight and corridor is still seen. He noted these updates will give it the look it had over time and brings back some of the charm lost over time.

Mayor Strickland stated this is a good time to proceed with these projects since we are currently celebrating the upcoming anniversaries of Donald Ross and Olmsted.

Lisa Bomkamp asked if based off the survey, the results that we receive, will these be confirmed at the public meeting. Mr. Willardson stated they will be and if everyone is still on board, we will bring the proposal to council meeting on the March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Debbie Lalor stated she was surprised to discover that the Village had installed new clay/sand sidewalks along portions of Dogwood, Cherokee, and Kelly. She noted the 4-year-old clay/sand sidewalk on Magnolia between Chinquapin and Azalea has been a constant source of problems for both the Village and homeowners with sand being washed into driveways, yards, and the streets. She stated the clay is subject to erosions and is slippery when wet. Mr. Lalor noted the Village Maintenance Department has had to invest a significant amount of time in erosion repair and sand clean-up on this stretch of sidewalk. Ms. Lalor stated earlier in the Fall, the Village had to put orange cones and rope up to block off areas of the new sidewalks on Dogwood and Cherokee due to severe erosion problems creating issues with slippery clay and dangerous footing for pedestrians. The sand which had been there has now covered and killed the grass which used to border the sidewalk next to the road. She was surprised the Village had proceeded with the installation of these new sidewalks when it had not yet gotten the sand/clay mix correct, despite assurances to residents that it was working with agricultural experts.

Charles Collini asked where the problem was on Everette. Ms. Lalor stated there is one block where the sand is gone, and the clay left is slicky.

Councilmember Patrick Pizzella asked what the respective turn around is when a homeowner points out there is a problem, and we fix it. He asked if maintenance has a regular routine. Mr. Sanborn stated we respond quickly to such request and maintenance is ongoing.

Charles Collini stated there is a brick pathway behind the old bank that is obstructed with overhanging bamboo, which occurred during the ice storm. Mayor Strickland stated anytime the residents see something in need of maintenance, submit it to the myvop app.

Edward Balkovic stated the entrance to trace was all shaded and they requested maintenance by using the app and got a quick response.

Mr. Willardson stated 2022 is a special birthday year as we celebrate Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th birthday and Donald Ross's 150th birthday. He stated the Village would like to invite everyone to come to the lecture with Dede Petri, sponsored by the Women of the Pines. He noted for the St. Patrick's Day parade, Donald Ross will be leading this year's Parade as Grand Marshall. He stated we have a local gentleman who will be impersonating Mr. Ross during the parade and at some other events we will be holding during the Live After Five events.

Mr. Willardson stated we will be celebrating Olmsted by participating in a community cleanup day on April 26th. He stated the CVB has created commemorative coins bearing the visages of Donald Ross and Frederick Law Olmsted. He noted the souvenirs will be available for purchase as part of a year-long celebration marking what would have been Ross' 150th birthday and Olmsted's 200th birthday. Mr. Willardson stated our goal is to educate the community on their history and what their contributions were to the Village of Pinehurst.

Debbie Lalor asked if there would be some special signing for parking for the St. Patrick's Day parade event. Bert Higgins asked about the information the newspaper's is reporting, which states Mr. Olmsted was not instrumental to the Village. Mayor Strickland stated Mr. Olmsted and his firm and family was involved in the development of the area. While we do not know if he ever came here, we do know that his family was crucial.

Ed Balkovic stated the women's open is coming and asked if there is a plan to incorporate that event into our celebrations. Mr. Willardson stated that is in the working.

Mayor Strickland stated the Council continues to work on the issue of short-term rentals and we have been getting a lot of public input and he stated Council will continue to keep the community updated on their progress.

#### **4. Other Business – Neighborhood Reports.**

- Bert Higgins stated there are a lot of capital projects proposed in the Village and a lot of money earmarked for these. He states he feels like we need to be making some progress on getting these done. He said he doesn't see any progress. For instance, the fire truck and the West Pinehurst Park. Mayor Strickland stated we are in the process now of working on the budget and many of those projects will be in that budget. Jeff Sanborn stated many of those projects are already in the budget from last years' five-year budget. Mayor Strickland stated the West Pinehurst Park is a long-term development program and the Village will make decisions based on Mr. Sanborn's submitted budget on how we want to prioritize the proposed capital projects. He noted funds will then be committed and projects will continue. Councilmember Hogeman stated some projects are further along than they appear, for example the Stormwater Plan is almost complete, and money and time has been expended on those. Mr. Higgins stated he doesn't want to waste money, but if the needs are there, then we need to get these things done. Councilmember Pizzella stated that with the budget, Council will prioritize and decide which projects need to move forward and which ones need to be pulled off.
- Tom Campbell stated that he goes door to door and asks questions. He stated around Monticello he just drives along and if he sees folks out, he will just stop and ask them questions. Some in his area have asked about the area around the Village Chapel, there is an area with no gravel that is somewhat sloped. On the far end towards the library, there is only blacktop and no gravel. He stated when Tufts Park was introduced, we chose stone color to be neutral and we decided not to invest in pavers, but Riley does not have the bid anymore and with the next order we are uncertain what the cost will be for the next order. He stated it cost about \$50,000 each time that order that stone. He asked if we could dye concrete in that area to keep with the neutral colors.
- Debbie Lalor stated the lights on Magnolia are great and look terrific, as well as the sidewalks by Manor Inn to MacAskill. She stated this is money well spent because they look great. She asked when the paving is going to happen at the bottom of Magnolia Road. Mr. Sanborn stated that is up to the paving company. Ms. Lalor asked if a stop sign could be installed at the end of Carolina hotel to help stop the vans from coming out. Mr. Sanborn reported that is private property and they do not want to do this. Ms. Lalor stated she does also wonder about all the projects that are coming up that we do not see anything happening with them. She stated she has had questions about the zoning in the small area plans. Mr. Sanborn stated there are no zoning areas determined yet. He noted only after the plan is adopted by council will there be zoning assigned.

Ms. Lalor asked if when they go back for the fourth public meeting, what is council going to provide to the public. She asked if



Council is looking at more comments from the public. Mr. Sanborn stated the plans are only used to supply a visual concept of what the area might look like. There is not zoning districts assigned. Councilmember Hogeman stated she does find it difficult as well to fully wrap your mind around and so this public meeting is meant to be helpful to the public. Councilmember Pizzella stated the latest action by the council was to extend the moratorium for 120 days. He stated this means that nothing will be happening within that time and Council wants to get this right. Councilmember Hogeman stated they want to know what the citizens want this to look like.

- Edward Balkovic stated that they had great response from public service following the ice storm. He asked about the rumor of another traffic light near 6 where there is conversation about a shopping plaza.
- Bill Keith stated the county is putting in new sewage lines and he has had many people asked if while they have been clearing out all the trees, should the Village take advantage of this cleared section to extend the greenway trail. He stated it is the West side of 15-501 – if it went across here than folks could cross the road and continue. Mayor Strickland said the problem may be that we are crossing a state road. Mr. Keith stated this would help those people walking a quarter of a mile down the shoulder along busy traffic. Mr. Sanborn stated this would be something they would investigate. Mr. Keith stated another question he has is that a person has six licensed cars in their yard. Are there any restrictions? Mr. Sanborn stated there is not
- Larry Rotunda stated we have some Pinewild residents who have expressed some concerns about the small area plan. This concern is with the traffic, multi family housing, and the traffic on number 5.
- Lee Thomas had nothing to report
- Charles Collini asked if the Village of Pinehurst maintains a listing of all the residents addresses and phone numbers.
- Lisa had nothing to report
- Barbara Reining is the new representative of CCNC replacing Kara Vonderkall
- Tony Elms stated he wants to acknowledge that staff is not getting the recognition they should be, because the community is not seeing what is being done in the background. He stated if the council and staff can show, tell, illuminate concrete things that are done and being done than it would eliminate some of the skepticism that we don't move forward with plans. Mayor Strickland stated we try to inform the public through different venues, but the NAC could help by taking the information back to those in your communities. Mayor Strickland stated we know you do not all have active roles in your community, but we do count on you to take the information we convey to you, to push this out to your designated areas and to bring back problems you are having.
- Tom Campbell stated it would be helpful for older people if there was just a bulleted point sent out on progress.
- Village Manager Sanborn stated a lot of truck traffic has been cutting through the village center and we have been trying to figure out how to fix this. We had a conversation with our DOT representative and learned that the national trucking industry uses the same GPS routing systems. The systems provide them with information such as state designated truck routes. We learned that DOT would be amenable to removing that designation in the area. He noted it would first have to lose the highway 2 designation first. Mr. Sanborn stated Council passed a resolution asking the North Carolina Department of Transportation remove NC Highway 2 designation and commercial truck route designation from Midland Road, Palmetto Road, Azalea Road and Cherokee Road between the Pinehurst Traffic Circle and NC Highway 4, thereby making the Pinehurst Traffic Circle the Western terminus of NC Highway 2. He stated hopefully now this will be approved with the DOT and filtered into this trucking GPS routing system. He noted we will place No-thru truck signs later. Mayor Strickland stated a year ago they worked out with the resort to change the location of their deliveries as well, and this has alleviated some truck traffic. Lee Thomas asked if once this designation is removed, how quickly is the turnaround before this is reported to the trucking application provider. Mr. Sanborn stated we are not certain of the answer to this at this time. Mayor Strickland stated they do have another meeting with the DOT on March 7<sup>th</sup> and they will ask this question at this time.

5. **Next Meeting Date.**

The next NAC meeting will be held on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

6. **Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Chance,  
Village Clerk

*Vision: The Village of Pinehurst is a charming, vibrant community, which reflects our rich history and traditions.*

*Mission: Promote, enhance, and sustain the quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.*

*Values: Service, Initiative, Teamwork, and Improvement*