

SOUTHERN SHORES DOGWOOD TASK FORCE MEETING

March 15, 2016

Pitt Center

- I. **Call to Order** - Michael Fletcher, Chair, called the meeting of the Southern Shores Dogwood Task Force to order at 6:00 pm. In attendance were Task Force members, Maureen McGrath, Dan Dwyer, Sam Williams, and Keith Lilly. Absent: Richard Bell, Tom Craney, Shirley Ruff, and Jim Connors.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Approval of Agenda** - Agenda for the current meeting was approved.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - The minutes of the February 16, 2016 meeting will be approved at the April 19, 2016 meeting.
- IV. **Announcements**
- V. **Old Business**
 1. Announcements
 2. Facebook page update – Keith has put the Charge to the Task Force and links to the minutes and the 2014 Bicycle Draft on the Facebook page.
 3. Summary on State of Survey – Dan Dwyer.

We have permission from Town to use their email list to send out survey. It will go to everyone in SS, SSCA, and Chicahauk Homeowners who have signed up for emails from Town. Discussion on distributing a paper survey to those addresses on East & South Dogwood Trails. Sam suggested that we do a postcard instead which was agreed upon. Wording on the postcard was discussed and agreed upon. Dan agreed to followup with the Town staff on getting the postcard printed. (postcard attached). The postcard will be distributed by Task Force members to all houses on the Dogwoods. (note: this was done on April 9th)

Survey questions were discussed and it was decided to add an identifier since we are not limited to 10 questions. A link to the Survey will be on our Facebook page and on the Town's website & FB page. The survey that will be sent out is as follows:

SURVEY

The South and East Dogwood Trails Task Force, made up of 9 residents of Southern Shores, was established by the Southern Shores Town Council to make recommendations for viable solutions to issues surrounding South and East Dogwood Trails. In addition to gathering information from other sources, one charge to this Task Force is to solicit input from property owners of Southern Shores (particularly those that live or own property on South and East Dogwood Trails) and develop a report to the Town Council specifically regarding issues of vehicular and pedestrian safety, any future street improvements, and long-term maintenance of South and East Dogwood Trails.

To that end, this is the Task Force's first effort to obtain input from residents and property owners of Southern Shores. This initial survey is only to help us confirm and quantify some issues that have been identified with South and East Dogwood Trails. Although this is the Task Force's first step in gathering information from Southern Shores home and property owners it will not be the last. Members of the Task Force are united in our recognition that input and feedback from our the Town's citizenry is vital to the success of this effort and will play a major part in guiding the Task Force's future efforts.

Some of the major issues the Task Force has already identified are issues associated with road rebuilding (e.g., tree trimming/removal, curbing, and stormwater control), pedestrian and bicycle safety, width of roads, and cut-through traffic. This initial survey is only to help us confirm and quantify some issues that have been identified with South and East Dogwood Trails. If you have any issues that you believe the Task Force has missed and should be added to this list, please provide them to the Task Force.

Please encourage your fellow homeowners and citizens home and property owners to participate in this survey. All questions will have the choices: Strongly disagree, Neutral, Strongly Agree

1. **South and East Dogwood Trails need no re-design. There should be no change except for road re-paving and conservative tree trimming as needed to maintain visibility and safety**
2. **I avoid walking and/or riding a bike on South and East Dogwood Trails because there is not enough space to be safe.**
3. **South and East Dogwood Trails should be widened to accommodate pedestrians and/ or bicyclists**
4. **The amount of traffic on South and East Dogwood Trails is an acceptable inconvenience to maintain our tourism based economy.**
5. **The amount of traffic on the South and East Dogwood is ruining the quality of life in our town and all legal means should be employed to minimize congestion.**
6. **Driving on South and East Dogwood Trails is unsafe because of the many curves, driveways and limited visibility.**
7. **The road conditions (pavement /curbs/lack of shoulder) on South and East Dogwood should be improved.**
8. **A walking path should be added along South and East Dogwood**
9. **A multi-use path (about 10') should run parallel to South and East Dogwood Trails**
10. **The town should optimally use its allotted space to improve South and East Dogwood Trails to accommodate both the traffic congestion as well as provide safe space for walking and biking.**
11. **Please choose all that apply**
 - I live in Southern Shores**
 - I live on either South or East Dogwood Trail**
 - I own or am co-owner of property in Southern Shores**
 - I neither own property nor live in Southern Shores**
12. **Please list any issue concerning South and East Dogwood Trails you think the Task Force may have not considered**

VII. New Business:

Discussion about the physical survey for Dogwood Trail which will need to be done. #1 question that Dan has heard is “Why are they doing anything to Dogwood?”, “I like it the way it is”. As the Town does the road rebuild within the next 10 years (in the Town’s CIP), a road survey will have to be done. While this is being done, the multiuse path or walking path could be included in the plans. Much discussion on this, but general consensus is that the road should “look” the same.

VIII. Public Comment

No public present

IX. Announcements

No announcements

X. Adjourn

Next meeting will be April 19, 2016 at 6 p.m. at the Pitts Center
