

BEAUFORT NORTH CAROLINA



Town of Beaufort Newsletter

www.beaufortnc.org

March 2023

Town Hall

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Office Hours

8 a.m. -5 p.m. Monday-Friday

Town Hall is accessed via Pollock Street.



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Newsletter Submissions:

Due 5 p.m. April 15, 2023 Send to Rachel Johnson, PIO at r.johnson@beaufortnc.org

Historic Route Improvements Project includes innovative drainage system

BEAUFORT – A multi-organizational project to overhaul and beautify Cedar Street in downtown Beaufort [began in January] with an innovative way to capture storm runoff.

The N.C. Department of Transportation will construct what are known as bioretention bump-outs, which collect and filter storm runoff before the rainwater drains away to the estuary. A total of 14 such bump-outs will be constructed, consisting of concrete borders along the street and filled with



landscaping that resemble planter boxes.
As part of this collaborative project, the town of Beaufort, thanks to a grant from the N.C. Division of Water Resources, will use permeable pavement to reconstruct the parking lanes along Cedar Street. The pervious surface will help reduce runoff and minimize pollutants from entering the estuary around Beaufort.

The NCDOT's Hydraulics Unit worked with the town of Beaufort and Highway Division 2 to design the bioretention bump-outs as an effective, innovative way to improve the venerable route's drainage system and protect the town's waterways.

"The existing infrastructure and development along this road presented a challenge with building a traditional drainage system," said Jeff Cabaniss, the Division 2 engineer based in Kinston. "This alternative system will be better for the environment and also contribute to the beautification of this historic town and improve its water quality."

The project will culminate by an NCDOT contractor resurfacing and restriping 0.7 miles of Cedar Street from its dead end to Live Oak Road. All of the improvements are scheduled to be completed by this summer.

Travel impacts

The work will necessitate some lane closures under flagging operations directing traffic, and some brief road closures. Drivers should use caution when traveling through this corridor and expect occasional delays until the work is completed.

Press release by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Partnership with Coastal Federation

Mayor Sharon Harker presents April Clark, Todd Miller and Lauren Kolodij of the North Carolina Coastal Federation with a letter of appreciation for their ongoing partnership and support. The Federation has pledged \$75,000 towards the Cedar Street pervious parking project. The 16,600 square feet of pervious pavement in the parking lanes of Cedar Street between Orange and Marsh Streets will help reduce runoff and increase the efficiency of the bioswales at filtering pollutants. It is anticipated to capture 6.4 acres of stormwater runoff from adjacent properties and streets.





Ground Breaking

Mayor Sharon Harker, Mayor Pro Tem John Hagle and Commissioner Melvin Cooper joined East Carolina Community Development Inc. (ECDI) as they broke ground on a new Multifamily Housing Project known as Eastport II on Professional Drive. ECCDI is a nonprofit (501C.3) and has been building affordable housing in Eastern NC since 1995. Keith Walker is the President and CEO. Eastport II is a 48 unit multifamily affordable housing project scheduled to be completed in 2023.

March Town Meetings

Meetings will be conducted in the Beaufort Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort unless otherwise noted. Please visit the Town's website at www.beaufortnc.org/calendar for meeting agendas. Regular Monthly Meetings of the Board of Commissioners are livestreamed on the Town's Face-

6 p.m. March 7—Historic Preservation Commission

6:30 p.m. March 2—Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. March 9 & 20—Board of Commissioners Annual Retreat

6 p.m. March 13—Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

6 p.m. March 20—Planning Board 4 p.m. March 27—Board of Commissioners Work Session

6 p.m. March 27—Board of Adjustment

Sunshine List: Sign up for meeting notifications by emailing Town Clerk Elizabeth Lewis at e.lewis@beaufortnc.org.

Want to know more about what is going on around Town?

Visit www.beaufortnc.org for Project Updates and the monthly Town Manager's Report. Both may be found inside the "Mayor's Corner."

Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners met Jan. 23 and Feb. 13 for their regularly scheduled monthly meetings. They took the following actions and heard the following presentations:

- Planning & Inspections provided a Town Code Enforcement update.
- The Parking Manager presented information on the 2022 Parking Season.
- Discussed logistics of the 2023 Triathlon.
- The Town Clerk presented a Certificate of Sufficiency for annexation requests at 180 and 190 Davis Bay
- The Board authorized the Beaufort Fire Department to apply for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
- Finance Director, Christi Wood, provided a financial update.
- The Board welcomed three new Police Officers: Jacob Andrew, Josiah Bedsole, Matthew Maulshagen.
- Approved minutes from Jan. 9 and 23.
- Approved the Wooden Boat Show Event application.
- Conducted a Public Hearing on the question of annexation at 180 & 190 Davis Bay Drive, approved

the annexation request and adopted supporting ordinances.

- Approved a Sewer Allocation Request for Davis Bay Subdivision.
- Adopted a resolution regarding NCDOT Cedar Street Abandonment.
- Selected a vendor for the **Beaufort Police Depart**ment handheld radio replacement project.
- Appointed the following to the Town's volunteer boards:
- Planning Board- Becky Bowler, John LoPiccolo, George Stanziale
- Historic Preservation Commission-Bradley Hedrick, Marissa Morris
- Approved amendments to the Town of Beaufort Charter and associated Town of Beaufort Ordinances, to change the term of the mayor from 2 to 4 years, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 160A-101 and 102, effective beginning with the 2023 mayoral election.
- Todd Clark shared his Town Manager's report, which can be accessed at: www.beaufortnc.org/ boardofcommissioners/ page/managers-report.

For more information contact Town Clerk Elizabeth Lewis at e.lewis@beaufortnc.org.

NOTICE: Planning & Inspections

The Town of Beaufort's Planning & Inspections department is currently working with Infovision Software to implement Evolve, an electronic permit and plan review software system. Evolve will allow staff to receive electronic permit applications and plans for review through an online, easy-to-use secure customer portal. Citizens can search for building permits and view permit information. Contractors and homeowners will be able to submit applications online, schedule and cancel inspections, view their application status, pay fees, view their plans and print their Certificate of Occupancy along with many

Planning Board

The Beaufort Planning Board met Feb. 7 and discussed the following items:

Case #22-22 211 Broad Street: Request to raise the existing structure 24 inches from grade with new steps and chimney work. Approved.

Case # 22-34 201 Front Street: Request to move the existing Beaufort style fence along the Moore Street side retaining the size, height, picket style and color of existing fence. Approved. Case # 22-35 211 Orange Street: Request to install pavers for their driveway and install new landscaping with lighting within the landscaping. Approved. Case # 23-01 521 Front Street:

other features. The customer portal can be accessed from any device and used with any brows-

Evolve will streamline the plan review and permit process by allowing Town staff to instantly access the application, plans and their workflow dashboard (to do list) from any device with internet access. Reviews are completed simultaneously by each department instead of waiting for paper plans to be routed which will speed up the review process. Plan review comments and notifications are automated. Other notifications such as power releases to the utility company are also automated and sent at the moment the inspection is approved.

Request to install a 20 sq. ft. metal sign to replace the existing sign on the awning. Approved. Case # 23-02 300 Front Street: Request to install a 10.6 sq. ft. hanging sign, a 16 sq. ft. attached sign to the east side of the building and a above window sign totaling 5 sq. ft. above a window sign made of metal. Approved with two conditions: the hanging sign dimensions be 32" X 48" and the east side wall sign be 24" x 96" and line up with the signs above it.

If you have any questions please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org.

Flood Insurance Reminder

Spring is just around the corner and there is not a better time to start thinking about purchasing flood insurance or reviewing your current policy with your Insurance Agent before the rainy season. Flood Insurance can come in handy when heavy rain events occur; however, it is also a good idea to keep up with changes in coverage and ensure that your carrier is applying a discount for the Town Participating in the Federal Flood Program. To help identify the how, when, where and tips about flooding, The Town of Beau-

fort recommends that you visit the Carteret County web site at www.carteretcountygov.org and select Carteret County Flood Tips Brochure. Residents of Beaufort should receive approximately a 15% discount on Flood Insurance policies for primary residents due to the Town participating in the National Flood Program. If you have any questions please contact Kyle Garner, Planning Director, at 252-728-2142 or at k.garner@beaufortnc.org.





Partnering with the Carteret County Historical Society we are cordially inviting you to the

Women's History Month Reception



Thursday, March 16th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

History Museum of Carteret County 1008 Arendell St. - Morehead City

Guest speaker: Sharon Harker- Mayor of Beaufort Appetizers from local Chefs Silent Auction to Benefit the League's Educational Activities

This is a fundraiser open to everyone - We ask for a \$10 donation at the door to support the History Museum and the League of Women Voters

Beaufort Town Flags

Beaufort 3' x 5' flag (\$70) and 12" x 18" gar-den flags (\$30) for sale at Ace Hardware, 1511 Live Oak; Cous-

ins Bed & Breakfast, 305 Turner; First Citizens Bank, 1501 Live Oak: and online at www.BeaufortWomansClub.org Proceeds benefit the community through the Beaufort Woman's Club.

DONATE FOR EASTER!

March 27 - April 5, 2023

Donate canned or packaged food for food pantries.

Canned food Flour and Sugar Vegetable Oil Mac & Cheese/Rice Cereals Soup **Treats for Kids**

Sponsored by the Food Waste and Recovery Program of the Carteret Food and Health Council





Arts in Beaufort NC, Inc. AIB seeks to facilitate,

encourage and promote Public Art in our community and eastern North Carolina.

Call For Artists

Arts In Beaufort, AIB is seeking applications from Artists who are interested in designing and completing a Community Mural. Artist's written application to The theme for the mural is Blue. include Name, Address, Phone

Design Requirements

The design may be representational or abstract but should be appropriate for Beaufort's setting and be acceptable to a broad audience of all ages. The design cannot include logos, copyrighted or trademarked images, or be from signage or advertising in any way. Noncopyrighted words or phrases may be incorporated into the design.

The work should communicate a message that inspires, connects and reflects the values and diversity of our community. The mural will be in a harsh environment of sun, salt and wind, artists are asked to demonstrate a technical understanding of appropriate materials.

Location

Beaufort Boardwalk The mural will be painted in the area of the shower house wall at the west end of the Boardwalk, near the intersection of Front & Turner Streets. The mural wall is 33'long X 8'tall.

Timeline & Application Requirements

Number, Email address, a statement of experience, estimated budget and timeline, and 3 or more digital images of artist's work. The artist's description of the proposed mural with accompanying sketch(s) and specifications.

The due date for completed applications is March 31, 2023. AIB will review all applications and notify a finalist in April-May of 2023.

For more information or to view the full Call for Artists join the Arts in Beaufort NC Facebook group at https:// www.facebook.com/ groups/897055677851073, email BV28516@gmail.com or text (757) 636-7555.

Plastic Free By the Sea



Our grassroots efforts at tackling the plastic pollution crisis are paying off nationally and globally! Here

are some major wins from within the last year:

- The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) agreed on a mandate to negotiate a legally binding global plastics treaty addressing the full life cycle of plastics, from production to disposal.
- A "Green Council" for film and television was formed by The Screen Actor's Guild to "Flip the Script on Plastics." The goal is to ban single-use plastics both behind the scene and in front of the camera.
- Yelp has made it easier for consumers to find ecofriendly businesses through new searchable attributes such as "Plastic-free packaging," "Provides reusable tableware," "Bring your own container allowed,' "Compostable containers available," and "EV charging station available.
- The U.S. Department of the Interior will reduce and eventually phase out the sale of single-use plastic

- products and packaging in U.S. national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands.
- The U.S. government, the largest consumer of goods and services in the world. has committed to reduce its purchasing of single-use plastics.
- The U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Waste Management held a hearing on reducing plastic waste. Access to recycling, reducing contamination, and the effects of plastic chemicals on human health were discussed.
- The California Department of Justice launched an investigation into the role of fossil fuel and petrochemical industries about the harmful impacts of plastic pollution, and for spawning and intensifying the global plastic pollution crisis.

So keep using your refillable bottle, bringing your reusable shopping bag to stores, and talking with others about it. We'll tackle this crisis together! For more information on Plastic Free by the Sea, a local Environmental Conservation Organization or to contact the group, visit www.facebook.com/ PlasticFreeENC.

5 p.m. Saturday, March 18 "REFLECTION"

Described by one viewer as "a punch in the gut," Valentyn Vas Yanovitch's 2021 drama about the 2014 Ukraine war with Russia is more relevant than ever in March 2023. The film focuses on Serhly (Roman Lutskyl), a Ukrainian surgeon who is captured by Russian troops and exposed to shocking scenes of violence and indifference to human suffering. After his release, he strives to reclaim his humanity. Original title: "Vldbiysk." 2 hours, 5 minutes

5 p.m. Saturday, March 25 'A TASTE OF WHALE"

Not to be confused with the 2022 Brendon Fraser film with a similar title, this visceral documentary by Vincent Keltner targets the annual slaughter of hundreds of pilot whales (known as the "Grind") on Denmark's Faroe Islands and efforts by animal rights activists to stop it.

If you turn away in horror at

Kelner's graphic footage of the Grind — and, later, from the slaughterhouses — A Taste of Whale stresses that this bloodshed will always exist wherever you have meat for food. -George Wolf, MaddWolf 1 hour, 25 minutes

Beaufort Picture Show is a 501c3 nonprofit organization "on a mission" to present the best in recent independent and mainstream film to local audiences. Screenings take place at the Mill Space venue (next to Mill Whistle Brewing on Lennoxville Road) in midtown Beaufort. As a nonprofit, admission is free, although a minimum donation of \$5 is suggested — and appreciated! Concessions are available, and beverages may be purchased from the adjacent pub. All BPS screenings and events are subject to change; please check online for latest information and tickets at:

www.beaufortpictureshow.org.

Author Barbara Sullivan to present Lunch and Learn Program March 11, 2023

Gardeners across the nation are seeing clear signs of trouble in their home gar-



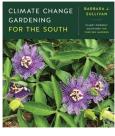
dens. Like many aspects of life on our warming planet, gardening practices need updating. Author Barba-

ra Sullivan has written a new book, "Climate Change Gardening for the South: Planet Friendly Solutions for Thriving Gardens," and she is presenting a Lunch and Learn program this spring, sponsored by the Beaufort Garden Club. This event is open to the public, and all gardeners, and members of area garden clubs are invited, and especially encouraged to attend.

The event will be at the Dunes Club, 710 East Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 11. Tickets are \$60

and include a signed copy of the book. A cash bar will be

available. In her lively and heartening book, Barbara Sullivan



offers an essential, easy-touse resource for adapting to the new realities of climate change. This book empowers southerners in growing beautiful gardens while using gardening practices that are beneficial for our shared environment. As increasing weather extremes, shifting hardiness zones, and seasonal unpredictability cause conditions that are increasingly tough on plants as well as insects, pollinators, birds, and mammals, gardeners can be part of new solutions for our warming planet. The members of the Beaufort Garden Club invite you

to attend.

Tickets are available: https://beaufortgardenclub.com/calendar-1

