

Summary of the 1/10/2019 New Hanover Planning Board Meeting and the Sand Mine from the Resident Advisory Committee (Elsie, Lori and Bob)

The topic of rezoning and a Special Use Permit (SUP) that would allow a sand mine to be operated between GE and the Wooden Shoe subdivision off 133 occupied two hours of discussion at the 1/10/2019 New Hanover Planning Board Meeting.

A larger number of River Bluffs residents attended than the sizable group who attended the October 24th Information Sharing Meeting even though a number of the first meeting attendees were not able to attend the meeting last night.

Look at all the recognizable people in the picture from today's article in the Star News!

[https://www.starnewsonline.com/news/20190110/decision-on-proposed-castle-hayne-sand-mine-](https://www.starnewsonline.com/news/20190110/decision-on-proposed-castle-hayne-sand-mine-delayed?template=ampart&fbclid=IwAR17PAMtvlcX9pKQU-4ibEc7gZjEifmiaiA0tO6SDbuAP7aQ9LBmINt4DsY)

[delayed?template=ampart&fbclid=IwAR17PAMtvlcX9pKQU-4ibEc7gZjEifmiaiA0tO6SDbuAP7aQ9LBmINt4DsY](https://www.starnewsonline.com/news/20190110/decision-on-proposed-castle-hayne-sand-mine-delayed?template=ampart&fbclid=IwAR17PAMtvlcX9pKQU-4ibEc7gZjEifmiaiA0tO6SDbuAP7aQ9LBmINt4DsY)



We were a big reason the room was packed and that an approval for the SUP was not given. We attendees were very impressed by how the Wooden Shoe residents hired an environmental lawyer and coordinated their talks to each create separate reasons for opposition and that built upon each previous talk.

The Applicants also hired an environmental lawyer based in Charlotte to supplement the messages given by their primary lawyer Stephen Coggins. After a five-minute recess requested by Coggins they also committed to pave the road and provide fence and vegetative sound abatement behind the adjoining Wooden Shoe resident properties after it became evident that those two items would obviously prevent approval of the SUP.

The result of the meeting was the Planning Board approval of the rezoning request and acceptance of the Applicant's request for a continuance of the SUP discussion. The Applicants target to again present the SUP request for approval at the 6:00 PM March 7th Planning Board meeting in the Andre Mallette Training Center, New Hanover County Government Center, Suite 135, 230 Government Center Drive.

Further coordination of RB efforts to prevent the sand mine from achieving the full rezoning and Planning Board approval of the SUP could continue to increase the impact of our efforts. Please contact Linda Emmerich (decart105@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer to work on coordinating future efforts.

Taking action can both influence this decision and identify River Bluffs as a neighborhood that needs to be consulted about decisions on future nearby projects. If the Planning Board approves the request, the last review will then be scheduled to be performed by the Commissioners. The NH County Commissioners meet monthly and have a meeting on February 14th.