

BASE SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: January 23, 2014

LOCATION: Ball Center, Camp Lejeune, NC

Members in Attendance:

Mr. Sonny Roberts – Committee Chair
Major General Robert Dickerson, USMC Retired
Major General Cornell A. Wilson Jr., USMC Retired – Military Affairs Advisor (by Phone)
Brigadier General Paul Dordal, USAF Retired
Colonel Walter J. Marm Jr., USA Retired

Members not in Attendance:

Colonel Frank Bottorff, USMC Retired

Others in Attendance:

Brigadier General Mabry Martin – Commission Chair
Major Bobby Lumsden – Military Affairs Section, Governor's Office
Sebastian Montagne, Department Military Liaison, Department of Transportation
Mr. Paul Friday, Assistant Chief of Staff - G7 and Director, Government and External Relations,
Marine Corp Installations East
Mr. John Droz, Physicist & Environmental Advocate

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1000

Mr. John Droz presented on the adverse effects of wind energy as it relates to the North Carolina Military Installations, the environment, our citizens and the state economy. Mr. Droz addressed The Mill Pond Project, potential impact on Cherry Point, the process as defined in House Bill 484. He addressed the role of the North Carolina Utility Commission in finding alternative sources of energy. Handouts were provided to attendees.

Afterwards, a Question and Answer session was conducted. Following the question and answer session, the following Motion was made:

Motion: To recommend to the Full Commission that the Legislative Affairs Committee draft recommended language for the North Carolina General Assembly to consider to revising and updating House Bill 484, thereby strengthening the laws that protect North Carolina's military installations from encroachment.

Discussion: No further discussion beyond the question and answer session

Vote: Motion unanimously was approved by all committee members present

Mr. Paul Friday, Assistant Chief of Staff - G7 and Director, Government and External Relations for Marine Corp Installations-East, was called upon to provide an update on Hoffman Forest.

He first started off by notifying the Committee that the North Carolina Commander's Council (NCCC) has a Legislative Affairs working committee. If there are items that the Committee or the full Commission wishes for the NCCC Legislative Committee to consider or review, please forward those to him so that he can get those to the appropriate members.

Hoffman Forest, LLC, with the primary partner being Jerry Walker, is moving towards signing all documents to final purchasing of the land sometime in March or April of this year [2014]. Activities are being conducted on the land currently, primarily surveys and other actions relating to marking and laying out the land for potential future purposes. The first meeting internally to Marine Corps Installations – East will occur on January 24, 2014 in order to discuss what steps the Marine Corps will take to engage the new owner after legal has advised and the new owner has closed on the land. The key to discussion from the Marine Corps is to inform the new owner(s) current usage by the U.S. Military on the land, and the opportunities for mutual support on the lands currently being used or those that may have future military use. There was a desire expressed by the new owner to develop of the block 10 portion of the land (portion closest to Hwy 17). From the Marine Corps perspective, some development in that area would not create too many issues with encroachment. Of course the land that is used for training overflights and some areas used for Landing Zones or training areas, if developed could have substantial effects on the Installation. The Marine Corps is interested in leasing a portion of the land for training, and they have no indication that the new owner(s) are not interested in this. Of course leasing would depend on budgets and other funding from the federal government.

It was asked that the Committee or Full Commission begin conversations with the projected new owners and discuss their intent and the potential missions and opportunities they could have by partnering with the Installation (and the Military more broadly speaking). Mr. Friday referred to

General Martin and General Dordal, Chair and Vice-Chair of the NCMAC respectively, agreed to work this through the full Commission to determine the best steps to approach the new owner and open the lines of communication.

Paul Friday provided an update on Sentinel Landscapes and its goal of protecting forested areas and other agribusiness areas. An eastern North Carolina Food Summit along with State Department of Agriculture will be held for the first time outside of the Raleigh area. Vendors to military commissaries are being encouraged to buy locally for commissaries and chow halls and to progress toward purchase of more locally grown fruits and vegetables for commissaries, and change menus on bases to reflect growing seasons throughout the southeast. The goal is to open the first Farmers' Market on Camp Lejeune on April 15 [2014]. OSD issued guidance that allows military commanders to put Farmers' Markets on installations at their discretion. Aggregation, distribution and infrastructure need improvement, but potential for boost to farm business and the overall southeast economy exists. Discussed possible programs to help retirees and veterans become farmers. The efforts are making progress at the OSD and Department of Agriculture levels.

Paul Friday provided an update on working with Bear Gardens as an alternative habitat for the red cockaded woodpeckers, while simultaneously protecting missions' sites, particularly Camp Lejeune and Fort Bragg.

Commission Chair General Martin and General Paul Dordal suggested that the Sustainability Committee be prepared to list the top three priorities for BRAC in enough detail to be able to discuss them at the next full Commission meeting. Ideally, partnering with all forces to resolve Hoffman Forest's perpetual or long-term easement takes precedence, second, technical landing

areas for vertical landcraft, third is to allow military to have their maneuver areas, i.e., operational BIVOUAC, fourth is that the landowner maintains land in agribusiness.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1330