

**Down East Council regular meeting; February 6, 2018 at the Williston UMC.
There were 14 members present.**

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Chairman Barbara Blake.

The Secretary's report was accepted as given.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as given, there is \$651.82 on hand.

OLD BUSINESS:

Barbara gave a quick rundown on the Council's actions over the last year, such as working on plans for the Mountain to Sea Trail and drug drop off point for unused medications. She also reported on the working on a plan to support the commercial fishermen on marketing and educational benefits. The grant she applied for has not been granted. The project will continue.

Lillie Miller gave an over view of the Community survey and which items the public thought most important to them. The survey is on the Council web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jorja Patten gave a report on her activities regarding trash along our roads. Contact our County Commissioners about problems and enforce littering laws. She has been harassed while cleaning road sides.

Susan Wilder reported on her and her husband's efforts at stopping the littering. Paul has been given space in the News-Times to write a bi-weekly column on littering and how to better handle our wastes by recycling them into usable products. Susan has been busy contacting the DOT about the roadside pickup done with the prisoners and received an answer from the contact there. The crews will be doing 7 trash pickups this year along route 70 and 12. They do not do the side roads. The group doing the mowing is supposed to be picking up cans and etc before they mow. The County waste sites need to better educate the public about sorting items for disposal to make the recycling more profitable for the County and for our taxes. Waste Industry's contract is to transport the waste to landfills or the recycling center, they do not sort or anything else. The public needs to keep after the County and State politicians to solve these problems. There is a need for education on all age levels to help with this problem. We can use social media and speak at local meetings, scouts, schools and churches.

Lillie Miller reported that she is working on the Councils web site to keep the public aware of happenings Down East. www.downeastcommunitynews.com/downeastcouncil.html

Dave Boileau reported that the Friends of the Down East Library has been reorganized to better serve the public and the library.

Susan McNamara reported that the Bridge Down East on Harkers Island will be offering yoga classes starting this week at their building. The cost will be will \$30.00 for the 8 sessions and they meet Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. They also plan on having a public

community garden open to all. They will be starting the garden with the kids and expanding it to all to raise vegetables and more. More announcements will be coming.

Chairman Blake opened the floor for our elections that had been postponed due to weather problems in December and January. The floor was opened for nominations and the following officers were chosen unanimously by those attending the meeting.

Chairman: Lillie Miller;

Treasurer: Barbara Blake;

Secretary: Art Noyes.

We thank all those members and guests that came to show their concern for our road ways and waterways.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

The next meeting will be March 6, 2018 at the Williston UMC.