

Bertie

Ledger-Advance

50¢

WEDNESDAY • MAY 1, 2019



Season winds down

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County talks TGOW

SARAH HODGES STALLS
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WINDSOR - Bertie County Commissioners met with other county officials to begin discussions on the future of the Tall Glass of Water Project, the county's recreational property on the Albemarle Sound.

Robin Payne, who is experienced in project development in Eastern North Carolina, is providing guidance to county officials, according to County Manager Scott Sauer.

Results from the workshop will assist officials in pursuing grant applications, private donors and other resources to fulfill the vision for this public access site.

"First steps will include branding and message development with a name, logo and tagline for the Tall Glass of Water project," Sauer explained.

"It is a goal of the Board of Commissioners to hold an open house this summer to provide an onsite tour and recreational experience to kick-off the pub-

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lic's introduction to the nearly one-half mile of beach on the coastal waters of North Carolina's inner banks," he added.

Payne led discussions, which helped the group identify the potential users of the 137-acre property.

"We must make clear to residents of Bertie County this is their facility to utilize," Commissioner Ronald D. Wesson pointed out during the discussions.

Other potential users included the general traveling public and school trips.

Education, ecotourism and history preservation were key facts the group deemed "of potential interest" to visitors as well as uninterrupted nature.

"We see the stars every night," Sauer pointed out. "It's no big deal, but to others it would be."

Discussions included ideas for an interpretive visitors' center as well as an outdoor entertainment venue which could accommodate a large variety of events.



SARAH HODGES STALLS / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Bertie County Economic Development Director Steve Biggs was one of the county officials taking part in the Tall Glass of Water Planning Session on April 24.

"In the coming months, the Board will continue its visioning and planning efforts to incorporate all of Bertie County's world class recreational waters from the Roanoke, Cashie and Chowan rivers, and onto Salm-on Creek and the Albemarle Sound," Sauer said.

Throughout the planning process, Payne will document the Board's discussions and

charting the program objectives from last week's planning session. The outcome of her documentation will be used for incorporation with the meeting minutes, and to document the governing body's planning efforts.

Sarah Hodges Stalls can be reached via mail at shstalls@ncweeklies.com.

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