

11/04/07 Carolyn Justice

By LuEllen Huntley

State Representative Carolyn Justice, who continues to actively address and influence environmental matters in our region and state, spoke at the November meeting of PenderWatch & Conservancy. Justice reviewed legislation she has worked within the last several years.

Of particular significance, Justice explained, is the Hog Farm Bill. This legislation enacts a permanent moratorium on hog farm lagoons and specifies new technologies for farmers.

Another legislative bill for which Justice served as primary sponsor, concerns New Hanover County community soil and water.

Shellfish research legislation and a bill to protect the Venus Fly Trap are other areas where she continues to work.

Justice will bring forward again next year a proposal to clean up abandoned manufactured homes and remove recyclable parts.

The representative gave details on a study bill giving control to county fire marshals to enact burning bans, and mentioned a renewable energy/energy efficiency bill as environmentally directed legislation that has passed. The energy bill, she said, remains far from perfect but represents a start.

Asked the number one problem for coastal North Carolina, Justice pointed to uncontrolled stormwater runoff.

Pender County Commissioner George Brown visited and spoke to the group briefly as well, reviewing issues related to rivers and streams.

For further information on PenderWatch or to become a member, call 270-3839, or sign up for PenderWatch e-notification by e-mailing vufinder@mac.com .