

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
Special Public Planning Committee Meeting
October 8, 2015
1:00p.m. – Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

APPROVED

Committee Members Present: Chairman Tom Lennox, Kim Likins, and John McCann

Committee Members Absent: None

Town Council Present: Mayor David Bennett and Mayor Pro Tem Bill Harkins

Planning Commissioners Present: Chairman Alex Brown

Town Staff Present: Jill Foster Deputy Director of Community Development
Charles Cousins, Director of Community Development
Steve Riley, Town Manager
Jayme Lopko, Senior Planner
Shawn Colin, Deputy Director of Community Development
Don Kirkman, Executive Director of Economic Development
Kathleen Carlin, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

2. Freedom of Information Act Compliance

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the July 23, 2015 meeting were **approved** as submitted by general consent.

4. New Business

Vision and Master Plan for the Island: review, organize, and evaluate vision statements in the following three documents:

- 1) Comprehensive Plan, updated July 3, 2012
- 2) Mayor's Task Force for the Island's Future – Vision 2025
- 3) Hilton Head Island Vision 2030

Chairman Lennox welcomed everyone in attendance and stated that today the committee will discuss the development of a Vision and Master Plan for the Town of Hilton Head Island. The committee will start by defining a vision and a vision statement and they will discuss why a vision is important. The committee will review where we are today and ultimately the committee will determine the next course of action.

Following the committee's initial review, the committee will have an open discussion which will be followed by public comments. The committee will conclude by determining what the appropriate next steps should be and when they will occur.

Chairman Lennox stated that some of the definitions and references that will be used in today's presentation were taken directly from the 'Community Toolbox'. The 'Community Toolbox' is an in-depth document for community change and improvement. The 'Community Toolbox' is a public service of the University of Kansas and was developed and managed by the Kansas University workgroup for community health and development in partnership nationally as well as internationally.

Following this introduction Chairman Lennox reviewed the (*attached*) three documents: (1) Comprehensive Plan, updated July 3, 2012; (2) Mayor's Task Force for the Island's Future – Vision 2025; and (3) Hilton Head Island Vision 2030.

Chairman Lennox discussed the definition and goal of a Vision Statement. Chairman Lennox reported that many of the strategies and tactics listed in the Comprehensive Plan have already been achieved throughout the past five years.

The committee is charged with the following: (1) to determine if it is appropriate for this committee to evaluate or have evaluated the work that has been done – combine the work, the elements, the vision into one that we believe speaks the loudest to all who have participated to date and to identify those goals that support the vision; or (2) do we step aside from a mountain of data and analysis and begin the process anew; or (3) is some combination of both the best course of action.

The committee discussed several issues related to the "Charting the Island's Future – From Here to 2030". The development of these documents and others are the result of hundreds and hundreds of interviews with community leaders, prominent citizens, stakeholders, interested businesses and business related organizations. Additionally, input was gathered from Community Input Surveys, Neighborhood meetings and dozens of separately held community workshops.

The committee presented statements regarding the accomplishments that have already been achieved based on the Comprehensive Plan. The committee agreed that it would be best to evaluate the accomplishments that have been achieved thus far. It would be a good idea to use the data that is already available to the committee. This would give the committee a good jump start on the process. The committee stated that it would be best to start with the history that we have and build on that foundation. Following this discussion, Chairman Lennox invited public comments and the following were received:

- a) Chester Williams, Esq., presented statements in support of using the data that is already available to the committee. This is an excellent foundation to build on.
- b) Mr. Randy Tardy also presented statements in support of using the data that is already available.

- c) Mr. Kumar Visbunabin presented statements in support of recognizing the demographic changes that the island is currently undergoing. The data that is available to the committee needs to be updated as much as changed over the past five years.
- d) Mr. Jack Alderman presented statements regarding the future vision for the island. More creativity in vision is needed. Help create demand and continue to respond to the demand.
- e) Mr. Glenn Stanford, citizen and chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals, presented comments regarding the vision statement and the work that has been accomplished so far.
- f) Mr. Alex Brown, Chairman of the Planning Commission, presented statements regarding a future vision for Hilton Head Island. The committee needs to consider a vision that is inclusive of all of the island's citizens.
- g) Mr. Don Kirkman, Executive Director of Economic Development, presented statements in support of the three foundation documents.
- h) Mr. David Ames presented statements in support of Option # 3 - a combination of both approaches.
- i) Chester Williams, Esq., presented statements in support of focusing on education as part of the vision for the island.
- j) Mayor David Bennett presented statements in support of sewer service for all residents of the island and the establishment of a community wide vision that has substantial consensus from our citizens. Mayor Bennett agreed that Option 3 is the best approach.

Chairman Lennox stated his appreciation for the public comments that have been received. It is important to engage the population and instill civic pride. Chairman Lennox stated that much has changed since the Mayor's Task Force was developed. The committee agreed that we need to engage individuals that are in the millennial generation.

The committee discussed the need for developing the right strategies and tactics appropriate to diversify the economy. The demand for services will not stop – we will have increased demand on resources. We have to look at the revenue side – vision is important. Implementation of the right goals, involvement of the town, and the support of the town become linked.

Chairman Lennox and the committee discussed next steps. The committee is charged with determining to what degree this committee gets involved in the visioning and master planning process for the island (as it is listed as a top priority in one of this year's targets for action.)

Chairman Lennox and the committee listed the three alternatives available to the committee: (1) to determine if it is appropriate for this committee to evaluate or have evaluated the work that has been done – combine the work, the elements, the vision into one that we believe speaks the loudest to all who have participated to date and to identify those goals that support

that vision; or (2) or do we step aside from this mountain of data, input, and analysis and begin the visioning process anew; or (3) is some combination of the first two our best course of action. The committee agreed that Option 3 is the best course of action. Following final comments, Chairman Lennox requested that a motion be made.

Mr. McCann made a **motion** that the committee proceed with Option 3 as their recommendation to Town Council. Mrs. Likins **seconded** the motion and the motion **passed** with a vote of 3-0-0.

5. Committee Business

Adoption of the 2016 Meeting Schedule

Chairman Lennox requested that a motion be made to adopt the committee's 2016 Meeting Schedule. Mrs. Likins made a **motion** to **adopt** the 2016 Meeting Schedule as submitted. Mr. McCann **seconded** the motion and the motion **passed** with a vote of 3-0-0.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15p.m.

Submitted By:

Approved By:

November 12, 2015

Kathleen Carlin
Administrative Assistant

Tom Lennox
Chairman