



Town of Hilton Head Island
Public Planning Committee Regular Meeting

Thursday, July 25, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

Present from the Committee: Chairman David Ames, Tamara Becker, Tom Lennox, Glenn Stanford

Absent from the Committee: Bill Harkins

Present from Town Council: None

Present from Town Staff: Wendy Conant, Code Enforcement Officer; Charles Cousins, Assistant to the Town Manager; Anne Cyran, Senior Planner; Alice Derian, Assistant Facilities Manager; Nicole Dixon, Development Review Administrator; Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager; Sally Krebs, Sustainable Practices Coordinator; Scott Liggett, Director of Public Projects and Facilities/Chief Engineer; Savannah Littlejohn, Local Government Intern; Tyler Newman, Senior Planner; Jennifer Ray, Deputy Director of Community Development; Teresa Haley, Senior Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ames called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Freedom of Information Act Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting June 27, 2019

b. Special Meeting June 28, 2019

Mr. Stanford moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2019 regular meeting and June 28, 2019 special meeting. Ms. Becker seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 3-0-1. Mr. Lennox abstained as he was not present at the subject meetings.

4. Unfinished Business

a. Update on Sea Turtle Protection Ordinance Revisions

Ms. Cyran presented the update as described in the Committee's Memo. No action is recommended by Staff at this time. Further updates and recommendations will be presented at a future Committee meeting. Additionally, staff will be preparing a series of ordinances related to the beaches, traffic, parking, sea turtles, shovels, tents, chairs, and the like. The Committee will be working with staff to review those ordinances in preparation of the Town Council's retreat in December.

The Committee made comments and inquiries regarding the revisions, including: if put into the ordinance, window film would be optional and not a requirement so not to void a manufacturer warranty; the results of the stakeholder meetings; research of model communities pertaining to lighting, shovels, etc.; communication and education on issues to parents versus children; consider putting creative signage at public beach access points to communicate rules; enlist

tourism partners to distribute list of rules to renters prior to their arrival; the Town needs to invest in more personnel to enforce the ordinance; determine the level of restriction the Town desires; and fitting together sea turtle protection, beach safety and aesthetics into an ordinance.

Chairman Ames asked for public comments and the following were received: communication, education, and enforcement of the ordinance are of utmost importance; consider removing trash receptacles and impose on beachgoers to dispose of their waste properly; and the Committee needs to take the lead on beach preservation.

The Committee made additional comments and inquiries regarding: carrying out a prototype on one part of the beach to gain experience and determine cost before creating an ordinance; getting beach resorts more involved to assist with the issues.

Chairman Ames then asked staff to work on and bring forward a definition of shovel, an outlook towards tents, and a draft ordinance of the issues discussed today.

b. Update on Garden Shovels on the Beach

Ms. Cyran introduced Ms. Savannah Littlejohn to present the item. Ms. Littlejohn presented information regarding other communities' regulations, education, and enforcement of garden shovels and other similar items on the beach. No action is recommended by Staff at this time. Further updates and recommendations will be presented at a future Committee meeting.

The Committee made comments and inquiries regarding: the type of shovel prohibited by other communities; the size and dimension of holes regulated, whether the other communities have lifeguards on duty.

Chairman Ames asked for public comments and received comments regarding nearby communities' regulations for holes on the beach.

5. New Business

a. Discussion of two potential LMO Amendments (Zero Lot Lines and Clear Cutting)

The Committee had an in depth discussion regarding zero lot lines and clear cutting.

Mr. Stanford moved that the Public Planning Committee request staff to study the LMO with respect to the lack of limitation that appears to be in the LMO concerning clear cutting and removal of trees over an entire development site. Ms. Becker seconded.

There was additional discussion by the Committee following the motion. A member of the public thanked the Committee for addressing important issues to support the vision of Hilton Head Island.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion and public comments, Chairman Ames called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0-0.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Submitted by: Teresa Haley, Secretary

Approved: August 22, 2019