



Town of Hilton Head Island
Public Planning Committee Special Meeting

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent from the Committee: None

Present from Town Council: None

Present from Town Staff: Shawn Colin, Director of Community Development; Anne Cyran, Senior Planner; Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager; Teri Lewis, Deputy Director of Community Development; Jennifer Ray, Deputy Director of Community Development; Teresa Haley, Senior Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ames called the meeting to order at 1:00 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. Special Meeting September 19, 2019

Mr. Harkins moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2019 special meeting. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

4. Unfinished Business

Chairman Ames made a brief presentation related to balancing the preservation of the Island and accommodating the growing number of residents and visitors. Chairman Ames indicated discussion on this may be merited at the Town Council annual retreat.

a. Palmetto Breeze Update

Mary Lou Franzoni presented the update to the Committee. Following the presentation, the Committee made comments and inquiries regarding: compliments to the cleanliness and comfort of the trolleys and professional drivers; concerns the trolleys are not equipped to accommodate beachgoers belongings; support of charging parking fees for non-residents in order to encourage them to use free parking at USCB to take to trolley; and consider how to serve high density areas behind the gates like the resorts in Palmetto Dunes.

Ms. Cyran presented the Staff recommendation that the Public Planning Committee provide feedback on the following recommendations for improvements to The Breeze trolley service for the 2020 season:

- Evaluate the possibility of a free service.
- Add a third trolley and extend the route.
- Connect to the Sea Pines trolley.

With the Committee's support of these recommendations, Staff will do additional research on the feasibility of and costs associated with each option and return to the Committee with a more detailed report.

The Committee expressed support for Staff to work on connection to the Sea Pines trolley and indicated there is support from Sea Pines to do this as well. The Committee expressed support for Staff to provide further research to add a third trolley and extend the route, and to evaluate the possibility of a free service.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Stanford moved to approve Staff further research the recommendation to add a third trolley and extend the route. Mr. Harkins seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

Mr. Harkins moved to approve Staff further research connecting to the Sea Pines trolley. Mr. Stanford seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

Mr. Stanford moved to approve Staff further study the possibility of a free service. Mr. Harkins seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

Chairman Ames asked for public comments on the item and none were received.

b. Additional discussion related to the LMO Amendment Process

The Committee asked that the Town website include a dashboard with the status of LMO amendments and outlined details of what that would look like in order to keep the public informed. Chairman Ames invited Jim Gant, former LMO Committee Chairman to add to their discussion. Mr. Gant shared his thoughts and experience with the LMO amendment process. Staff indicated that the LMO Committee will put out a schedule for the first part of 2020.

Chairman Ames asked for public comments and the following were received: support for the LMO Committee to adopt a regular meeting schedule; monthly updates on the Planning Commission agenda regarding LMO amendments; the Committee establish a quarterly list of priorities; and concern the Town Council cannot originate a LMO text amendment.

The Committee commented that LMO amendments that are ready should be moved forward expeditiously in the process and not be delayed within a set of amendments. The Committee expressed support for creating a dashboard on the Town's website to include the status of proposed LMO amendments, a graphic timeline and process, upcoming dates, the review body, the initiator of the proposed amendment, a statement of purpose or benefit to the community, and related maps of zoning districts.

Mr. Stanford moved that the Public Planning Committee request that Staff develop a revision to the Town website to deal with the LMO amendment process together with the proposed amendments and stated pros and cons with the purpose to communicate more clearly to the public. Mr. Lennox seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

5. New Business – None

6. Committee Business

a. Review and Adoption of 2020 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Harkins moved to approve. Ms. Becker seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

7. Appearance by Citizens on Items Unrelated to Today's Agenda

Liza Pirkey presented comments related to her concerns with 5G wireless.

Jocelyn Staiger commended Ms. Lewis on her work through the LMO rewrite process. Ms. Staiger expressed concern about the LMO turning back into being too restrictive.

Patsy Brison noted the code restrictions related to bicycles and carts on roadways.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Submitted by: Teresa Haley, Secretary

Approved: December 3, 2019