



Town of Hilton Head Island
Public Planning Committee Workshop
October 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Virtual Meeting
MEETING MINUTES

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

Others Present from Town Council: Tom Lennox

Present from Town Staff: Shawn Colin, Director of Community Development; Anne Cyran, Senior Planner; Jennifer Ray, Deputy Director of Community Development; Cindaia Ervin, Finance Assistant; Teresa Haley, Senior Administrative Assistant

Others Present: Curtis Coltrane, Town Attorney

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ames called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.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. Roll Call – See as noted above.

4. Sea Turtle Lighting Discussion

a. Presentation by Howard Ackerman

Mr. Ackerman, a representative of the Property Owners' Protection Committee, made a presentation in opposition to the Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance Revisions.

b. Presentation by Amber Kuehn

Ms. Kuehn, a marine biologist with the Hilton Head Island Sea Turtle Patrol, made a presentation in support of Sea Turtle Lighting Ordinance Revisions.

c. Staff Comments

Ms. Cyran presented statements regarding the Town's current ordinance, written in the 1980s and adopted in the 1990s, and the proposed ordinance revisions in comparison to other similar communities.

d. Public Comments

Public comments concerning the agenda item were submitted electronically via the Open Town Hall portal, provided to the Committee for review, and made part of the official record. There was one member of the public who signed up to give public comment on the discussion item, however, he was not in attendance.

e. Comments by Committee Members

The Committee thanked Mr. Ackerman, Ms. Kuehn, and Ms. Cyran for their presentations and work throughout the process. The Committee made comments and inquiries regarding: how enforcement of the ordinance is managed with the hotels; the property owners objections to the revisions focus on the restrictions being applied to interior

lighting; sympathetic to the property owners objections; support of protection of the turtles; objection to require homeowners to make changes to the interior of their existing structure; the limitations that apply under the current ordinance versus the proposed revisions; the latest draft of ordinance revisions have come a long way to address property owners concerns and continue to protect sea turtles; balance the development of an effective ordinance to protect an endangered species without imposing unreasonable restrictions to property owners.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Submitted by: Teresa Haley, Secretary

Approved: February 3, 2021