



Town of Hilton Head Island
Public Planning Committee
Thursday, October 28, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

Present from the Committee: David Ames, *Chairman*; Tamara Becker, Alex Brown, Glenn Stanford

Present from Town Council: Tom Lennox, Bill Harkins

Present from Town Staff: Marc Orlando, *Town Manager*; Josh Gruber, *Deputy Town Manager*; John Troyer, *Director of Finance*; Krista Wiedmeyer, *Town Clerk*

1. Call to Order

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

2. FOIA Compliance

Ms. Wiedmeyer confirmed compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

3. Roll Call

Attendance of all members was confirmed by way of roll call.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Stanford moved to approve. Mrs. Becker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. September 28, 2021

Mr. Stanford moved to approve. Mrs. Becker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Appearance by Citizens

Chairman Ames allowed citizens who wanted to address the Committee on items not on the agenda to speak before starting the New Business.

Patti Maurer: addressed the Committee on matters related to the Office of Cultural Affairs Strategic Plan. Mrs. Becker responded to the comments made by Ms. Maurer.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Parking Study Master Plan - Direction on Implementation

Mr. Gruber delivered a brief presentation on the Beach Parking Master Plan. He started by giving a quick summary of the project history. Mr. Gruber noted that the project started in March of 2020 when the Town contracted with Walker Consultants to conduct a study of the Town's parking around the Coligny area as well as Town's beach parking. He reviewed the timetable starting with May to July 2020 when the consultant conducted several virtual public engagement forums with various stakeholder groups. Mr. Gruber noted that 860 residents and stakeholders participated in an online survey, providing feedback on the parking. He said that it was in October 2020 when Walker delivered a unified Beach Parking Master Plan that included a sequential step action plan to assist the town with implementing the recommendations outlined in the report. Mr. Gruber closed out the timeline, noting that on November 4, 2020, Town Council voted unanimously to adopt the plan and move forward to the Public Planning Committee to begin discussing the implementation of the plan. Mr. Gruber began to review the recommendations, noting that the first step in the implantation would be to engage the community and obtain additional public feedback. He said he felt that first action could be accomplished in the next 30 days. Mr. Gruber continued to review each of the recommendations, providing a subsequent timeline for each. Before moving on to questions from the Committee, Chairman Ames opened the floor to the citizens who signed up to address the Committee on this matter.

Lee Lucier, Rusty Jaquiss, and Heather Rath: addressed the Committee with similar concerns about the Beach Parking Master Plan. Noting that the public outreach was conducted during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and was virtual rather than in a setting where citizens could interact with staff and the consultant. They all echoed the limited public involvement, and requested additional studies be conducted. Also noted was how paid parking would affect the surrounding businesses in the Coligny area and cause more harm than good.

The Committee then reviewed each of the items for immediate action and implementation which included: establishing a parking enterprise fund, identifying parking zones, updating the Municipal Code, setting up an administrative penalty system, and updating the resident parking pass program. Mr. Gruber responded to the various questions posed to him by the Committee. He reviewed and gave examples from other communities when available. Overall, the Committee agreed that there are only a limited number of parking spaces at the Town's beach parks and that something needed to be done to update the current situation.

b. Monthly Update on the Short-Term Rental Ordinance Initiative

Ms. Lewis gave a brief update on the Short-Term Rental Ordinance project, noting that currently staff and the consulting team are collecting data and where they were with such information. She stated that an update on this initiative would be given each month until action was required to move forward.

8. Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Chairman Ames asked for Mr. Orlando to give his thoughts on the items discussed during the meeting. Mr. Orlando stated that he appreciated the feedback from the Committee, noting he took several notes. He said that there is a lot of work to be done on both matters and that he is looking forward to the continued leadership from the Committee and Town Council as a whole.

With no further business, Chairman Ames adjourned the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

Submitted by: Krista M. Wiedmeyer, Town Clerk

Approved: November 18, 2021

The recording of this meeting can be found on the Town's website at <https://hiltonheadislandsc.gov/towncouncil/pubplan/>.