



SPECIAL PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING

1:00PM, Monday, May 23, 2022

1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Bogosian, Anderson, and Pierce

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Director Kerr

2. Purpose – interview candidates for vacancies on the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board and Planning Commission and make a recommendation to City Council

Commissioners interviewed candidates for vacancies on the Accommodations Tax Advisory Board and Planning Commission.

Chrissy Lorenz spoke of her marketing experience through the restaurants that she and her husband own. She has lived on the island for 17 years and would like to understand more about where the City's marketing dollars are going. She would like to see more advertising focus on the hospitality businesses on the island.

Barb Bergwerf previously served on City Council and the Planning Commission. She is familiar with the ATAX Board and their budget. She believes the money can be better directed. She would like the City to advocate to the State for changing the percentage of money that must be directed towards marketing. She would like to see some monies focused on bettering the beach access paths.

Rebecca Kovalich owns several short-term rentals. She believes her extensive background in finance, management, and marketing could serve the City well. She would like to see MobiMats at every beach access path and to make better use of the City parking lots in the off season.

Ben Marks operates a short-term rental, works from home for a software company, and plays music in local establishments. He wants to have insight and input on the way ATAX money is used on the island. He would like to see it move forward in a positive direction. He believes he understands how the people of Isle of Palms would like their money spent. He would like to see the City have full control of its ATAX monies so it has more say in how the island is presented to the rest of the community.

Chas Akers is relatively new to the island and believes he can bring a fresh perspective to the ATAX. He has 30 years of marketing experience which he believes could help in bettering the

relationship with the CVB and or make a decision to work with another agency. He believes less but more targeted marketing would be better for the Isle of Palms.

Tony Jones believes his pragmatic and level-headed nature would be a good addition to the ATAX Committee. He has marketing experience from running his own small business. He has served on trade organizations as well as at the Exchange Club where he helped raise funds for the new dock prior to Covid. He would like to see more ATAX money invested in traffic and parking concerns around the island, particularly with helping people get off the island easily. He also believes some monies could be used to enhance the offerings at the Recreation Department.

Jeffrey Rubin believes he could serve on the Planning Commission well with respect to the research done by that group. He has served on numerous boards and commissions in the other cities he has lived in throughout his life. He sees safety as a primary issue on the island and believes the current configuration of the IOP Connector to be “a disaster.” He also believes the proliferation of short-term rentals across the island is an issue that needs to be addressed.

3. Executive Session

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to move into Executive Session in accordance with §30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss appointments to City’s board and commission. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Personnel Committee moved into Executive Session at 2:12pm.

The Personnel Committee returned from Executive Session at 2:24pm. Council Member Bogosian said no decisions were made.

MOTION: Council Member Bogosian made a motion to recommend Chrissy Lorenz to the open hospitality seat, Barb Bergwerf to the open cultural seat, and Chas Akers to the open at-large seat on the ATAX Committee, and Jeffrey Rubin to the opening on the Planning Commission. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bogosian noted that there is still an opening on the ATAX Committee slated as a hospitality spot. Applications for the open position will be accepted through May 31, at which time the Committee will consider any new applicants. If no new applicants are received, the Personnel Committee will consider a recommendation from the remaining candidates interviewed today.

4. Adjournment

Council Member Pierce made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Bogosian seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk