



**Planning Commission Meeting  
4:30pm, Wednesday, October 11, 2023  
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC and  
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Present: Sue Nagelski, Ron Denton, David Cohen, Sandy Stone, Tim Ahmuty

Absent: Jeffrey Rubin, Marty Brown

Staff present: Director Kerr, Zoning Administrator Simms

**2. Approval of minutes**

Mr. Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended of the September 13, 2023 regular meeting. Ms. Nagelski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Citizen's Comments**

Mr. Al Clouse's comments are attached to these minutes.

**4. New Business**

**Discussion of draft noise ordinance and decibel levels presentation**

Mr. Cohen provided noise examples at various decibel levels for the Commissioners.

Commissioners then entered into a lengthy conversation about the draft noise ordinance, appropriate noise and music levels, times of enforcement for noise and music levels, and how those noise and music levels might be enforced in different zoning districts. Director Kerr expressed concern about the complexity and enforceability of the suggested changes.

Commissioners debated and discussed the wording of the draft ordinance. Suggested changes will be collated into another draft to discuss at the next meeting.

**MOTION: Ms. Nagelski made a motion to defer the discussion of the stormwater recommendations from the drainage masterplan and the Comprehensive Plan draft to the November meeting. Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**5. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 4:30pm.

Ms. Nagelski made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane  
City Clerk

*W*

**Planning Commission 10/11/23; Clouse Comments (Meeting No. 25 since 4/13/2022)  
Regarding NOISE ORDINANCE; NUISANCE.**

Since our last meeting, we provided you with some videos and documentation regarding the abuse and noise violations from the Sweetgrass Inn.

We invited all of you to visit the site to help you better understand the situation. Mr. Tim Ahmuty was the only person who contacted us for a site visit. Mr. Kerr has visited us twice before. Hard to understand the reason you would attempt your task at 30,000 feet vs. boots on the ground. Our invitation is still open.

We are providing you with a **not ready for Google prime time map** which illustrates the dynamics of our situation. Respectfully, and hopefully, you will allow us additional time to explain after my comments. (See attached).

We are not the **Windjammer**. We have a well documented history to **not negatively** impact the Windjammer. Full stop.

Our livability **is negatively impacted** by the Sweetgrass Inn. **City Counsel 5/22/2018 Video**, Wild Dunes LLC (Lowe/Dart) made numerous commitments to CC to gain approval of their hotel/event center. Their commitments, to gain approval, were disingenuous, and never came to fruition.

*W* We respectfully request, as we experience the **Prime Time David Cohen Sound Check**, you envision living in Plat Tract A, Block D and GP 3 which are designated on our map.

*PLEASE*  
~~You~~ envision trying to experience your screen porch or deck, while the Event Center is in low, medium or high mode. Unable to open up your windows/doors for outside air. When your windows/doors are closed, unable to extinguish the noise from Sweetgrass.....even when your TV is on. Unable to sleep at night. After party noise which wakes you up in the middle of the night. Understand what Lowe/Dart committed to, as compared to what they practice.

What happened to the **Principles of Accountability?**

We contend, in an effort to put a square peg in a square hole, **decibel levels** for the Sweetgrass Inn, be equal to a residential neighborhood. Measurement of said decibels be no further than **twenty (20) feet from the source**. A "buffer zone" be established between the affected neighborhood and the commercial property (a setback).

In the "buffer zone", sound abatement be implemented. Remember, we requested sound abatement sixteen (16) months ago (June 2022).

Based on all the above, we believe it is imperative to carve out the Sweetgrass Inn from all other commercial properties. Common sense: this is not a one size fits all situation.

Their entry into a residential area was more than egregious, and they did it to themselves. It is their behavior which has created this situation.....not ours.

Regardless of what you call it; a Hotel, a Cruise Ship, a Theme Park or an Event Center; the abuse to the residents is the same.....unconscionable.

Our livability must not be defined by the Lowe/Dart cash flow statements.

The proposed Noise Ordinance 2023-08 in your packet will not work for us.

25