



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT TASK FORCE
9:00am, Thursday, September 5, 2024
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

Present: David McNair (facilitator), Susan Smith, Alex Stone, Joe Ready, Linda Tucker, Maryanne Chalmers, Bev Miller, Paige Grimball, Bill Skeen (via Zoom), Hugh Swingle, Sara Vega

Absent: Patsy Hindman, Rod Turnage, Ben Marks

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, PR Officer Yudchenko

Mr. McNair said he is pleased with the first draft he received from the Safety Committee. He would like each group to send their drafts to PR Officer Yudchenko for her to distribute to Task Force members ahead of next week's meeting where they will be presented and discussed. He believes the first presentation to City Council should be brief with only the highlights and bullet points from each subgroup.

Discussion about "Quality of Life" continued. Ms. Miller would like to see a focus on "family-friendly" and "residential" as they are mentioned in numerous places in City documentation. She believes the "a third-a third-a third" may be key in keeping a balance on the island between full- and part-time residents and short-term rentals. Task Force members engaged with Administrator Fragoso for details about the statistics surrounding short-term rentals and the City's software used to track the rentals. While the statistics may currently indicate a larger percentage of short-term rentals, Mr. Skeen pointed out that when the less active rentals are removed from the calculations, the numbers show more of a balance between residential and rentals.

Ms. Chalmers asked what the problems are that need to be addressed around short-term rentals. Mr. McNair said it is important to focus on where action is needed most and not spend time on non-issues.

Discussion focused on how to best inform renters of behavior expectations. Mr. Stone said that island property managers already have policies in place educating renters about island policies. He and Administrator Fragoso pointed out that there is no way to have or expect 100% compliance. Administrator Fragoso also said that no matter how much enforcement is done, someone will always think not enough is being done.

Administrator Fragoso shared that the CVB is updating all videos and photography related to promoting the Isle of Palms to include only families. She said the City has two livability officers and they work to cover the island 24/7.

Task Force members discussed the development of a “Good Neighbor” initiative that would inform neighbors of contact information for a short-term rental but also require short-term rental license holders to attend a class about what it means to be a “good neighbor.” Mr. Swingle said he is not in favor of requiring property owners to have a professional property management company. Both Mr. Stone and Administrator Fragoso noted the importance of standardizing communications between the City, the property management companies, and the renters.

Ms. Miller would like to see the Recreation Center also act as a community center. Ms. Tucker added that she would like to see the City acquire more property to allow for additional recreational purposes, especially for the City’s youth population. Ms. Grimball would like to see the City do a better job of welcoming cyclists to the island. Ms. Vega will speak with the Recreation Director about future programming wants and needs.

Mr. McNair said he would shape today’s discussion into bullet points to distribute to the Task Force. Ms. Tucker asked Task Force members to read the subcommittee drafts through the lens of the community and not personal wants or needs. Ms. Miller suggested referring back to the survey results to review what it is the community said they want and need.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk