



COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT TASK FORCE
9:00am, Thursday, October 10, 2024
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

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

Absent: Ben Marks

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, PR Officer Yudchenko

Mr. McNair shared that following today's meeting he and PR Office Yudchenko will be compiling the work of the Task Force's subcommittees into one document. He plans for this document to be sent to the Task Force members a few days ahead of the October 24 meeting. Mr. McNair will update City Council at their October 22 meeting on the work of the Task Force and prepare them for a final deliverable in early 2025.

Ms. Chalmers expressed concern with some of the recommendations in the plan. She would like for the full membership to review the ideas and determine where there is consensus. Ms. Tucker suggested adding a caveat noting that not everyone agreed on all recommendations. Mr. McNair said no recommendations will be part of the final product without 80% consensus.

Ms. Tucker also asked that when the draft gets to the staff that other City planning documents, such as the Strategic Plan, Beachfront Management Plan, etc., be kept in mind so there is no conflict between them.

Mr. McNair said he liked the suggestions for the Quality of Life section sent by Ms. Tucker. Ms. Miller said she believes verbiage about short-term rental regulation is missing and shared her offerings to the document. Ms. Hindman expressed concern about rehashing the short-term rental conversation before the community has had time to heal from the controversy around the referendum. Mr. Swingle agreed. Mr. Stone and Mr. Ready suggested the development of triggers for City Council to track regarding the balance of short-term rentals within the community. Ms. Tucker cautioned against any part of the plan reflecting any one person's passion or on anything that could date the document.

Administrator Fragoso expressed her concern that the public believes there is not enough regulation and enforcement with short-term rentals. She said staff and Council spent 2 years trying to develop a noise ordinance that would have helped the Police Department address noise concerns, but it did not pass a Council vote. The staff can only work with what they have.

Ms. Miller said conversations about the short-term rental issue need to address the balance between rental and residential that is addressed in other plans. Administrator Fragoso suggested the addition of a recommendation that City Council continue to monitor the issue.

Discussion ensued around signage and short-term rentals. Several Task Force members expressed a desire to have readily available contact information for all short-term rentals. Mr. Stone reminded the group of the intentions of the Family Vacation Rental group to improve communications between rentals and neighbors. Mr. McNair said facilitating easy communication between rentals and neighbors seems to be the recommendation.

Mr. Stone said noise and light mitigation recommendations should be applied to all homes, rental and residential.

Ms. Miller suggested communicating with Wild Dunes security to understand the types of calls they are responding to.

Ms. Vega shared that she, Ms. Smith, and Ms. Tucker met with the Recreation Department staff to get more insight. Director Ferrell said that while a pool is often requested, it is very hard to staff. Discussion about the Recreation Center being labeled a Community Center was briefly discussed. Ms. Vega said the recommendations need to address solutions of letting the public know about the offerings at the Recreation Center. Other Task Force members would like a recommendation addressing residential rental opportunities at the Recreation Center.

There was a brief discussion around staffing concerns. Mr. McNair suggested pulling staffing references from any one section of the plan and making it an overall recommendation so as not to favor one department over another. Administrator Fragoso pointed out that addressing staffing issues is one of the tenants of the Strategic Plan.

The next Task Force meeting will discuss the draft of the plan. Mr. McNair asked the group to read the plan, make notes, and be ready to discuss it at the October 24 meeting.

The meeting ended at 10:42am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk