



## **ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**4:00pm, Thursday, April 21, 2022**

**1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC**

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

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Call to order**

Present: Deb Faires, Jonathan Knoche, Molly Marino, Belvin Olasov, Linda Plunkett, Mary Pringle, Sandra Brotherton, Doug Hatler

Absent: Grace Jurgela, City Council Liaison John Bogosian

Staff Present: Director Kerr

#### **2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes**

Dr. Plunkett would like the first two paragraphs of the litter section of the minutes removed due to confusing information.

**MOTION: Ms. Faires made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the March 10, 2022 meeting, and Ms. Marino seconded the motion. The amended minutes passed unanimously.**

#### **3. Citizens' Comments**

Susan Smith, 20 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, thanked the Committee for their work and shared the recent activities and plans of the IOP Cleanup Crew. They are holding beach sweeps every other Monday at 6pm throughout the spring. About 30-35 volunteers have attended each sweep and they pickup 600-800 pieces of trash at each sweep. Weekly sweeps will be held from Memorial Day to Labor Day. She reported that the space between the restrooms and the showers at 1100 Palm Boulevard will become a Conservation Station. They are working on its development right now. They are also teaming up with CCPL whose summer reading program will be centered around ocean conservation.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **A. Wildlife**

Director Kerr referenced the sample ordinances about the prohibition of metal shovels on beaches provided in the meeting packet. The proposed ordinance for the Isle of Palms is a copy of the one used by Hilton Head, which provides exemptions for City employees, work related to beach preservation, and others approved by the City or exempt from the application. Committee

members briefly discussed whether or not to adjust the handle length of the shovel in the ordinance.

Mr. Olasov suggested that the City send a press release upon the passage of this ordinance framing it for safety and turtle habitat conservation reasons.

**MOTION: Dr. Plunkett made a motion to recommend the redline version of the ordinance to City Council for approval and recommend a favorably worded press release upon its passage. Mr. Hatler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Pringle reported that the cost of the stickers for the lights out for turtles program is a nominal cost that will be paid by the Turtle Team. She will speak to Robbie Berg of the Garden Club and Exchange Club to see if they would like to present their request for the funding of the shorebird rack cards and rack card holders to the ATAX Committee or if that request should come from the Environmental Advisory Committee.

Ms. Pringle also commended Animal Control Officer Ryan Warren for his recent attendance and participation in Shorebirds Stewards training and Turtle Team training.

#### **B. Water Quality**

Director Kerr reported on a meeting with Waterkeepers he attended with the Water Quality subcommittee. They talked about the sampling they do in other local communities, but he got the impression they “felt that indicators were such that the water quality here was not that bad.” They talked about ways in which testing could be done including hiring a third party to do it. Waterkeepers also suggested partnering with Charleston County. Director Kerr is trying to set up a meeting with the County to discuss testing the waters coming off the back side of the island and come up with suggestions on how to improve it. Mr. Hatler said it could be possible to lay out a testing plan and then get a scope of work from some engineering firms to do the testing. Director Kerr said money has been set aside in the FY23 budget for something like this.

Director Kerr stated that Davis & Floyd has completed their inventory of the existing drainage system and identified bigger and smaller problems. Public Works has already begun dealing with some of the smaller problems. Davis & Floyd will also be looking at the City’s development standards. He will bring those before the Committee for their feedback as well.

#### **C. Climate Change**

Director Kerr said that the Climate Change resolution was presented to the Public Works Committee for recommendation to City Council. There was a motion to approve, but not a second, so the motion failed. Council Member Bogosian said he would like to make some edits to the resolution before sending it back to the Committee. He believes these edits could make it more likely to pass a vote of City Council. Director Kerr will mention to Council Member Bogosian that the Climate Change subcommittee would like to discuss the resolution revisions with him.

**D. Litter & Pollution**

Ms. Pringle said that Sarah Lyles from Palmetto Pride and Keep America Beautiful met with the Litter subcommittee and herself prior to the meeting. Dr. Plunkett said that their meeting with Ms. Lyles provided a lot of clarity about how Palmetto Pride helps existing organizations with their litter control concerns. She said there is more benefit to membership in Palmetto Pride, specifically with regards to grants.

Director Kerr reported that Public Works ordered larger cigarette cannisters and installed four of them in the front beach area. An employee has been assigned to check them weekly on Mondays. He has been asked to keep track of how much they are being used.

**5. New Business**

Mr. Olasov shared that he had a conversation with Elizabeth Fisher of Fisher Recycling. She is working on a proposal to team up with the City on setting up two glass drop-off centers on the island. He would like to have her share that proposal with the Committee at their next meeting.

Mr. Hatler suggested making plans for next year's Earth Day Celebration.

**6. Miscellaneous Business**

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 4:00pm.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane  
City Clerk