



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4:00pm, Thursday, April 10, 2025
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC
and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Laura Lovins, Mary Pringle, Eric Cicora, Cindy Marrs (via Zoom), Sean Popson, Todd Murphy

Absent: Dane Buckout, Lucia Spiotta, Council Member Miars

Staff Present: Administrator Kerr, Zoning Administrator Simms, Asst. Director Asero

2. Citizen's Comments - none

3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Ms. Pringle noted the correct spelling is Blair Amon.

MOTION: Ms. Pringle made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting as amended, and Ms. Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Presentations – none

5. Old Business

A. Wildlife

Ms. Marrs asked why there are no wildlife signs at the beach access paths in Wild Dunes like there are outside of the gates. The City did purchase signs for their beach accesses. Ms. Marrs said she will work on finding out where they are so they can be posted.

Ms. Lovins reported that she and Ms. Smith are working with sign companies for the marina interpretive sign project. She anticipates costs in the \$15,000-\$20,000 range for 16 panels. She hopes to have a proposal and schematics at the May meeting.

Discussion ensued about the City's procurement process. Ms. Lovins will approach the marina and Islander 71 about possible sponsorship of the signs.

Zoning Administrator Simms said the tree at the Recreation Center has been treated. The leaves need to fully emerge to determine if the treatment was successful.

B. Litter

Mr. Murphy said he and Zoning Administrator Simms worked on the lighting ordinance. He will ask the Police Department for their feedback on it. Ms. Marrs suggested adding a definition for filtered light.

Administrator Kerr will reach out to Dominion Energy about options for the type of lights installed in the light poles around the island.

To move the proposed ordinance forward, the Committee would need to recommend it to City Council. Administrator Kerr suggested Mr. Murphy attend the City Council meeting to explain the origins and reasonings behind the ordinance. Mr. Murphy noted that many surrounding communities already have such an ordinance in place and the Isle of Palms is behind. Mr. Murphy will create a storyboard and share it with the Committee before going to Council.

MOTION: Ms. Marrs made a motion to recommend the updated lighting ordinance to City Council for consideration. Ms. Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Water Quality

Ms. Lovins and Zoning Administrator Simms shared that they spoke with staff from Mt. Pleasant Waterworks about the water quality results. A lengthy discussion about additional testing and associated costs recommended by Mt. Pleasant Waterworks ensued. The Committee also discussed if the testing was necessary to launch an educational campaign about water quality and the myriad issues surrounding it such as septic concerns and use of harsh chemicals and fertilizers in lawn care.

Mr. Cicora and Ms. Marrs will research what surrounding communities have done about banning harsh chemicals such as glyphosate and return to the Committee.

Ms. Lovins shared an article about the federal lobbyist recently engaged by the City and the IOP Water & Sewer Commission. Administrator Kerr said the agreement with the lobbyist will be executed on May 1. He will keep the Committee updated on their work.

D. Climate Action

Administrator Kerr said there are five different operators currently working on the beach. He detailed the work of each contractor.

6. New Business

A. Discussion of Kiawah's Good Neighbor policy

Mr. Murphy referenced a brochure in the meeting packet that is distributed by Kiawah Island. He asked Committee members to begin thinking about the information they believe to be most important to share with visitors. Administrator Kerr said this item will be kept on the agenda.

B. Update - Community Enhancement Task Force recommendations

Administrator Kerr said that he and Zoning Administrator Simms continue their work to clarify the committee assignments for the numerous recommendations. He will share the current matrix with the Committee.

C. Update on glass recycling through Fisher Recycling

Administrator Kerr asked the Committee to consider if the glass recycling effort with Fisher Recycling is still necessary now that the County is recycling glass. Zoning Administrator Simms will research the County's efforts and bring information back to the Committee in May.

D. Update - solid waste grant for composting caddies

Zoning Administrator Simms is waiting to hear back about a grant to subsidize 250 additional food composting caddies.

7. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 4pm.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Pringle made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Popson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk