

MINUTES OF THE ISLE OF PALMS  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
January 13, 2010

The Isle of Palms Planning Commission met in the Building Department conference room, 1301 Palm Boulevard on January 13, 2010, at 4:30PM. Members attending included Bev Ballow, Pat Campbell, David Cohen, Ron Denton, Diane Oltorik, Noel Scott and Dick Watson; also the Director of Planning, Douglas Kerr was present. The press had been notified of the meeting and the agenda for the meeting was posted in City Hall and the Building Department to comply with the Freedom of Information Act.

Chairman Ron Denton called the meeting to order.

#### ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Mr. Denton asked for nominations for Chairman. Ms. Oltorik nominated Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson explained that if the current Chairman had an interest in continuing, he would decline the nomination. Mr. Denton stated that he was interested and Mr. Watson declined the nomination. Mr. Scott nominated Mr. Denton and Mr. Watson seconded the nomination. The vote was six to one in favor of the nomination, with Ms. Oltorik voting against the nomination.

Mr. Denton asked for nominations for Vice Chairman and Ms. Oltorik nominated Pat Campbell. Mr. Watson seconded the nomination and the vote was unanimous in favor of the nomination.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The next item on the agenda was the review of the minutes of the December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting. Ms. Oltorik stated that she thought the Police Chief stated that dealing with day-trippers was "the biggest" issue facing the City and the minutes stated that he said it was "one of the biggest". The Commission agreed and Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment to the first paragraph on page 2 described by Ms. Oltorik. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with Ms. Ballow and Ms. Oltorik abstaining because they were not part of the Commission during the December meeting.

#### DISCUSSION OF PARKING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Kerr explained that at the December meeting he was asked to draft a parking management plan for discussion purposes. He explained that the draft that had been distributed was an attempt to give the Commission a starting point, but he recognized that there was still a lot of work to be done. He explained that the draft included background information and an explanation of a phased program

that would included a first phase of regulatory changes and the installation of signs; an intermediate phase that could include parking improvements like meters or space demarcation; and final phase which could include major roadway changes including new lanes or pathways.

The Commission generally discussed the plan and Ms. Oltorik stated that she felt that Palm Boulevard should only have parking on the ocean side of the road. She explained that this would improve safety and benefit the owners on the waterway side of Palm Boulevard as they would no longer have a wall of cars on their side of the street. The Commission generally discussed the issue and whether this would have the effect of pushing traffic up the side roads and if the Department of Transportation (SCDOT) would approve such a change.

Mr. Scott explained that he felt that the City could benefit from having a master plan at the beginning of the process to eliminate the possibility of doing work in the near term, which could be contradictory to a future plan and need to be altered or eliminated. The Commission discussed this and Mr. Cohen stated that proposed first phase did not include any physical improvements for this reason and the requirement to pay to park was intended to begin money coming in to pay for things like a master plan.

Mr. Campbell stated that he felt that there were some unanswered questions about what SCDOT would allow the City to do and he thought it would be beneficial to have them come back and discuss these issues with the Commission. The Commission agreed and Mr. Kerr stated that he would try to have a representative present at the next meeting.

#### DISCUSSION OF LIMITING ROOFTOP DECKS

Mr. Kerr explained that this was an issued raised at the September workshop between the Planning Commission and City Council. He added that the Commission discussed the issue in October and the language included in the packet was a result of that meeting. Mr. Kerr proposed “decks elevated to within 10 feet of the primary roof of a structure, cannot have an area that exceeds 10% of the footprint of the structure”. He added that he intended for the footprint to be of the heated structure, not including decks, porches or other unheated areas.

Mr. Denton explained that he felt it should be clarified that the limit was to be taken from the highest point of the roof. The Commission generally discussed the amendment and Mr. Watson made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the amendment as written including the changes to clarify that the limit be related to the heated footprint of a structure and the highest point of the

primary roof. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mr. Watson explained that he would like to have some clarification on why Commission members should not be allowed to discuss things with each other prior to the meeting. Mr. Kerr stated that he would try to get clarification on this matter.

Ms. Oltorik explained that she would like to have the contact information for people providing the required education for Commission members. Mr. Kerr answered that he would forward this information to the Commission members.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Denton, Chairman.