

MINUTES OF THE ISLE OF PALMS
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
February 9, 2011

The Isle of Palms' Planning Commission met in the Building Department Conference Room, 1301 Palm Boulevard on February 9, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. Members attending included Bev Ballow, David Cohen, Ron Denton, Pete Doherty, Diane Oltorik, Noel Scott and Don Smith; the Director of Planning Douglas Kerr was present, as well. 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 David Cohen called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The next item on the agenda was the review of the minutes of the January 20, 2011 meeting. Mr. Kerr explained that three corrections had already been noted. The first was the omission of the word "which" in the second sentence in the elections section. The second was in the middle of the same paragraph, the sentence should be rewritten to be: "Mr. Denton nominated Mr. Scott and Mr. Scott explained that, since Mr. Cohen has been on the Commission longer, he thought that Mr. Cohen might be a better candidate." The third change was in the third sentence of the second paragraph of the same section; it clarifies that Mr. Doherty made a motion to close the nominations for Vice Chairman. Ms. Ballow made a motion to approve the minutes as revised and Ms. Oltorik seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

ANNUAL LEGAL BRIEFING

Mr. Cohen stated that the next item on the agenda was an executive session to receive legal advice, which is an activity the Commission does at the beginning of every year. A motion was made and seconded to go into executive session; the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSION OF PARKING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Cohen explained that, in the meeting packet, was a draft of the points that would be discussed at the parking forum and asked if members had any comments. Ms. Oltorik explained that she felt that the first two (2) points on the pay-to-park slide should be reversed in order. The group agreed.

Ms. Ballow explained that she thought the presentation covered the points and asked for additional input, which was good. Mr. Smith stated that he understood that it was a State statute that required cars to park away from an intersection to not block the visibility of drivers, and he thought that it would be useful to mention the fact that it is

already a requirement. The Commission agreed. Mr. Cohen stated that he thought it would be useful to add an e-mail address, so members of the audience not wanting to talk could submit written comments via e-mail. The Commission agreed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mr. Scott explained that he thought the 55 mph speed limit sign posted on the outgoing lane of the Isle of Palms Connector should be shifted farther up the incline of the bridge. He voiced his opinion that, in its current location, the sign was too close to where the traffic merges and the intersection, so he believe that tourists do not see it because they have been focusing on safely getting onto the Connector. He stated that he felt it would be much more useful if it was another 50 yards up the incline. Mr. Kerr explained that he felt that the Public Safety Committee could deal with this issue.

Mr. Doherty asked if it would be appropriate for the Planning Commission to look into the issue of surfers getting too close swimmers. He explained that he felt that creating surfing zones would give better separation between surfers and swimmers.

Mr. Kerr explained that he knew that there was an ordinance requiring surfers to have a leash on if they were near swimmers. He added that the Public Safety Committee had looked at a similar issue with kite surfers, which he would research and report back to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Cohen
Chairman