

MINUTES OF THE ISLE OF PALMS
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
April 9, 2008

The Isle of Palms Planning Commission met in the Building Department Conference Room, 1301 Palm Boulevard on April 9, 2008, at 4:30PM. Members attending included Barbara Bergwerf, Pat Campbell, Ron Denton, Bob Hooper, David Stevens, Sandy Stone 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 Denton called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The next item on the agenda was the review of the minutes of the March 13th, 2008 meeting. Mr. Hooper made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSION WITH SCDOT REPRESENTATIVE- MARK NESBIT

Mr. Denton explained that the Commission had held a series of workshops to discuss issues with business owners and that a recurring issue was parking on the island and the Commission wanted to gain an understanding of what the City could do within the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) right-of-ways. He introduced Mr. Mark Nesbit from SCDOT and thanked him for coming. He asked Mr. Nesbit who owns and maintains the roads within the City. Mr. Nesbit answered that the majority of the roads were owned and maintained by the SCDOT. Mr. Denton asked if the City could regulate parking within the SCDOT right-of-ways. Mr. Nesbit answered that any parking limitations would only be approved if they were necessary to improve safety or provide access to individuals' properties. Mr. Hooper asked if the City could impose a fee to park within the right-of-ways. Mr. Nesbit answered that he would need to check into this. Mr. Campbell asked if the SCDOT would be willing to conduct a study of the traffic patterns within the City to better determine the parking needs. Mr. Nesbit said that he could ask about this. The Commission generally discussed parking issues and agreed that they would send a written inquiry to Mr. Nesbit and thanked Mr. Nesbit for attending. After Mr. Nesbit left, the Commission agreed to ask for details on whether the City could require a parking permit, which would be issued by the City for a fee, for cars parking in the right-of-ways; and if so, under what conditions.

DISCUSSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Denton explained that it had been four years since the Planning Commission updated the Comprehensive Plan and according to state law it had to be reviewed every five years. Mr. Kerr added that a review is intended to be a quicker process and therefore not include an extensive amount of public input, but that an update should be a more inclusive process; and therefore it would be helpful to know before the process begins if the Commission believes that the plan should be updated. The Commission agreed that at the next meeting, they would go through each goal and strategy of the plan and then attempt to make a determination on whether the plan should be updated or reviewed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mr. Kerr explained that at the last City Council meeting a request was made for the Planning Commission to investigate and make a recommendation on requiring all new houses larger than 3500 square feet to have a sprinkler system. Mr. Kerr explained that because the sprinkler requirements were part of the building codes and the South Carolina Building Codes Council dictated what building codes must be used, he thought there was a legal problem with adopting such an ordinance. He explained that the City Attorney was researching this issue and that he would provide an opinion soon.

Mr. Kerr explained that the Commission's recommendation on the 21st Avenue curve had been forwarded onto the Chief of Police and that he would report back to the Commission when some action is taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m..
Respectfully submitted, Ron Denton, Chairman.