

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2008; 3:00PM
KIAWAH ISLAND MUNICIPAL CENTER
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
MINUTES**

- I. Call to Order: Mr. Lipuma called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.**
- II. FOIA: Notice of this meeting has been published and posted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Kiawah Island.**

III. Roll Call:

Present: Charles Lipuma, Chair
Bill Connellee
David Elliott
Jim Chitwood

Also Present: Nancy Jackson, ARB
Jim Jordan, TOKI
Eric Rice, TOKI
Norm Shea, KICA
Scott Fister, KIGR

Absent: Dale Anderson
Dave Achey, KICA
Liz King, KIGR
Sarah Latshaw, KIGR
Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator

- IV. Mr. Lipuma stated that Mr. Rusty Lameo wanted to speak to the Environmental Committee in regards to the Town's litter enforcement and recycling initiative.**

Mr. Elliott motioned to add Mr. Lameo's presentation under New Business, Item B on the current agenda. Mr. Connellee seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Environmental Committee Minutes of January 15, 2008

Mr. Chitwood motioned to approve the minutes of January 15, 2008. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. Mr. Shea and Mr. Chitwood made changes to the minutes. With those changes the minutes were unanimously approved.

VI. Old Business:

A. Jewels in the Crown Draft Article

Mr. Lipuma stated that Mr. Rice and Mr. Jordan had the article written by Mr. Bill Hindman. Mr. Rice distributed the article for member feedback. Mr. Lipuma asked Mr. Rice and Mr. Jordan if they had made any changes to the article. Mr. Rice replied that the article presented had no changes and that any changes will be made by Friday, February 15, 2008 in order to meet the deadline for Town Notes. Mr. Jordan went on to say that he was hoping the article would have statistics showing that property values on Kiawah are actually higher due to the natural vegetation and landscaping. Mr. Chitwood stated that those figures are probably available. Mr. Lipuma suggested that the average figure quoted for sold properties should reflect only single-family homes rather than a total average of all properties sold.

Mr. Lipuma went on to say that the Environmental Committee has one more article to write. The article should sum up what the Environmental Committee is trying to accomplish and why it is good for current and perhaps future property owners to take heed of the advice. Mr. Lipuma also suggested packaging all six articles in a brochure and using the glossy approach with photos included as a final culmination of the Jewels in the Crown Article Series. Mr. Lipuma suggested focusing on a set of three distinct and very different photographs of lots in order to show a lot before development, a lot stripped completely, and a lot that has a naturally landscaped finish. Mr. Lipuma stated that the final picture should be accompanied with an explanation stating that this is how a great lot can look and this kind of finish will serve to protect habitat, animal population, and property values. Mr. Chitwood stated that he feels the natural landscaping that the Habitat Improvement Initiative supports is along the same lines that can be found in the ARB's Designing with Nature publication. Mr. Lipuma, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Chitwood stated that they would like to see an actual comparison of property values with naturally landscaped lots compared to stripped lots.

VII. New Business

A. Going Green

What can be done?

What should the Environmental Committee Promote?

Mr. Lipuma stated that the Town has adopted a "Go Green" policy in order to switch to the use of more ecologically safe office and kitchen supply products and asked what the steps the Town has taken thus far. Mr. Jordan explained that the Town is working on the first steps of "going green." This initiative was started because the Town was ordering Styrofoam and other products that are just thrown away so Jim and Eric put together a proposal to purchase more biodegradable and earth-friendly products. This proposal was approved and all new kitchen supply

purchases will be more “green.” These products are made from starches and recycled papers making them more quickly biodegradable. Mr. Rice stated that the supply cost will remain nearly the same and only cause a small increase in the budget. Mr. Lipuma stated that Mrs. Rucker wanted to speak to the Environmental Committee about their support and the Town’s initiative but she is out of town at a meeting. Mr. Rice stated that switching to the use of recycled paper would be the single thing that would cause the most “green” impact in the office. Mr. Eric stated that he felt the Environmental Committee should push for the switch to recycled paper throughout the office.

Mr. Fister, KIGR Recycling Coordinator, stated that each plastic bottle has a number located inside the recycling triangle and in Charleston County they only accept #1 and #2. Also, three and above cannot be recycled in Charleston County and can only be shipped off if a consumer wishes to recycle them. Mr. Fister stated that in order for a company to really consider going green, they must be conscious of the lifecycle of the product and note how much energy is used in creation through disposal. Mr. Fister suggested that when the Town paints again, that they look into purchasing “green” paints. Mr. Fister stated that he is in the process of purchasing a fluorescent bulb crushing machine that allows the glass to be stored and recycled. Mr. Rice suggested that the Town should look into purchasing a similar machine to store outside and under shelter at Town Hall. Mr. Rice and Mr. Lipuma stated that this machine could be made available to the public and anyone wanting to dispose of fluorescent lights could do so at Town Hall in an earth friendly and safe way.

B. Rusty Lameo-Recycling Grant Information

Mr. Lameo stated that the Town is in the application process for two environmental grants. One grant has been received from Palmetto Pride and focuses on litter enforcement policies and tactics. Mr. Lameo explained that past monies from the litter enforcement grant have been used to purchase security cameras that allow the off-property and mobile surveillance of high-incidence illegal dumping sites on Kiawah Island.

Mr. Lameo stated that the second grant is a South Carolina State Litter Grant and is associated with recycling and litter efforts along the beach. Mr. Lameo stated that additional funds are being requested from the ATAX Committee to help purchase new trash and recycling bins that will be placed along the beach and for completion of a concrete slab in the Town Hall parking lot that will provide surface support for a large recycling bin supplied by the County. Fennel Containers Company will provide pick-up service of all recycling material collected on the beach. The Town is also considering the purchase of a bobcat tractor, which will be used for large debris movement and large marine carcass burial. The Town currently has to call in another agency in order to bury large

carcasses. Mr. Lameo stated that total funding could be \$70,000.00. Mr. Chitwood asked what the annual fee would be. Mr. Lameo stated that annual costs would probably be around \$10,000.00.

Mr. Lipuma asked that finished proposals be submitted to the Environmental Committee for review. Mr. Lipuma explained that after the proposals are reviewed, the Environmental Committee would be happy to write a letter of support to accompany the grant proposal.

VIII. Committee Member Reports:

Charlie Lipuma, Chair

Mr. Lipuma suggested using Palmetto Pride grant funds to purchase a battery bin. This bin would be stored at Town Hall and available for the public to recycle their old batteries. Mr. Lipuma stated the he wanted the Environmental Committee to gather more data on the following items of discussion:

- 1) Battery bin
- 2) Fluorescent Bulb Crusher

Jim Jordan, TOKI

Mr. Jordan presented the Wildlife Report for 1-16-2008 thru 2-12-2008. Mr. Jordan noted that all wildlife calls were concerning raccoons with apparent distemper. He explained that distemper is a naturally occurring disease and the Town of Kiawah Island has not had a major outbreak since 1997. These outbreaks help naturally control the animal population. (See Attached)

Eric Rice, TOKI

Mr. Rice stated that the Conservation Department is always looking for projects to spend Palmetto Pride funds on and suggested that the intersection of the Kiawah Island Parkway and Cassique has become increasingly dangerous for wildlife crossing. He suggested purchasing some crossing signs or some bobcat crossing signs that will educate and warn motorist of the native wildlife on Kiawah. Mr. Rice stated that three bobcats and one coyote have been hit in that same area. He went on to say that deer crossing signs have become ineffective and it may be a good initiative for the Environmental Committee to get some signs together for this intersection.

Nancy Jackson, ARB

Mrs. Jackson stated that discussed the following items:

- 1) Stated that she had spoken with a gentlemen who stated he had seen panther tracks on his property
- 2) She wanted to let Scott Fister know that she found two local guys that do solar water in case he needed alternatives

- 3) Stated that she knew John Iverson who is a world-renowned turtle expert if he was ever needed.
- 4) She is in the process of saving palm trees on the Island

Dave Elliott
No comment.

Bill Connellee
Not Comment.

Jim Chitwood
No Comment.

Norm Shea, KICA
Mr. Shea presented his monthly report concerning the lakes on Kiawah Island.
(See Attached)

IX. Citizen Comments:

None

X. Adjournment:

Mr. Chitwood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:43PM. Mr. Connellee seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by: _____
Catherine Wilson

Approved by: _____
Charles R. Lipuma

CC: William Wert, Mayor
Tumiko Rucker
Town Council