

**Environmental Committee Meeting
April 6, 2009; 3:00 PM
Kiawah Island Municipal Center
Upstairs Conference Room**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order:** Mr. McHugh 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: Harry McHugh, Chair
Aaron Given, TOKI
Dave Achey, KICA
Liz King, KIGR
Jim Chitwood
Dale Anderson
Lois Bryant, ARB
Norm Shea, KICA
- Also Present: Scott Fister, KIGR
Sarah Latshaw, KIGR
Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk
Rusty Lameo, TOKI
Andy Steele, Cougar Point Golf Course
- Absent: David Elliott
Jim Jordan, TOKI
Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator
- IV. Minutes:**
- A. Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2009**
Mr. Chitwood motioned to approve the minutes of March 2, 2009. Mrs. Bryant seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- V. Mr. McHugh motioned without exception to add Item A., “Town Island Wide Recycling Initiative” Update to New Business.**

VI. Old Business:

A. Green Initiatives

Scott Fister, Sustainability Coordinator KIGR,

The Resort ordered five recycling bins for Night Heron Park with ATAX Funding, the bins are made in the USA and are easy to construct. Mr. Fister reported that Nicky Seabirt, Habitat for Humanity, is taking a storm water retention pond and working on reforesting the area. They are looking for volunteers and any support available.

KIGR won the 2009 Outstanding Business/Industry Recycling Program from the Carolina Recycling Association. The competition was for businesses in both North and South Carolina.

Liz King, KIGR

Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, all eggs will be recycled and members of the community can bring in their used Easter eggs, as well.

VII. New Business:

A. Town Island Wide Recycling Initiative

Mr. Lameo presented an update to the Environmental Committee on the Town's Island Wide Recycling Initiative. The Town hopes to expand recycling to all Island entities and regimes by July 1, 2009. New bins will be available at Town Hall and at regime locations. Educational signage will be distributed to property owners and available as door hangers in rental units. The increased cost to add recycling to regimes will be passed along in regime fees.

VIII. Committee Member Comments:

Harry McHugh, Chairman

Mr. McHugh stated that Town Council has recently finished the budget review and unfortunately will be unable to donate to the Conservancy in fiscal year 2009/2010. The Town has budgeted \$300,000 for conservation efforts involving research and the Wildlife department.

The first contract for the Kiawah Island Parkway project will be let within the next two weeks. This contract will be for the mitigation area located along Cassique Golf course.

Mr. Fister asked if rubberized roads will be used for the project. Mr. Shea stated that a representative from Goodyear demonstrated the rubberized roads and the only issue would be the cost at \$12.00 per foot.

Norm Shea, KICA Lakes Department

The island has lost three alligators during the past month and it seems unusual that three alligators would die of natural causes in that close of a time period. KICA is working with DNR to pursue a possible criminal investigation. It seems that the alligators have

been poisoned due to lack of exterior injuries. Since 2006, there have been 13 gators killed along the area. The deaths seem to be purposeful due to lack of deaths in other areas on the island. Lead levels were high in the alligator testing but there is no research showing normal lead levels in gators. KICA would like to test lead levels in alligators in order to develop an average, healthy level.

Grass Carps have been stocked in a number of ponds. Some concern has been raised by residents about owls taking over osprey nests. KICA has mapped known osprey nests.

Investigation continues on a pool discharge ordinance. There have been no fish kills to report. KICA continues to work with EPA and USGS. Rainfall is 49% below average.

Dale Anderson, KICA

April 21, 2009 at 6:00pm at the Sandcastle is the Turtle Patrol kick-off meeting. Mr. Anderson presented *How Green is Your Garden?* an article from National Wildlife Magazine for information. The idea is simple; leave as much alone as possible and reduce your carbon footprint. Mr. Anderson asked if the Town has a relationship with the National Wildlife Foundation in a corporate sense. Mr. McHugh stated that he will gladly find out.

Jim Chitwood

Bobcat ball is April 23, 2009 and the last day for tickets is this Friday.

Sarah Latshaw,

KIGR works with the Painted Bunting survey and helps property owners attract the birds. Surveys begin again in May. The birds are caught in a trap and a biologist bands the bird's legs and allows tracking by residents on a website. A radio transmitter is also attached and tracked by radio transmission. KIGR attempts to re-catch the birds to release the transmitters.

Aaron Given, TOKI

A dog was caught in a bobcat trap, and had a cut and contusion on the leg. After inspection by a veterinarian no permanent injuries were sustained. The Town has now placed signage along all bobcat trapping areas. A nuisance alligator was reported on Glen Abbey. An injured gull was found on the beach near boardwalk 3 and euthanized. Two osprey eggs were found by a contractor and turned into TOKI wildlife. The contractor was not sure where the nest was located. A wild turkey has been sighted at Royal Beach. Six piping plover surveys were completed in March and average 20.2 birds per survey. On March 19, 2009, 73 piping plovers were spotted; a record survey.

Fifteen different bobcats have been captured and fitted with 10 collars to date. Trapping will continue through April 10.

Beach bird nesting signage will be placed around the East End nesting area within the next two weeks. The primary nesters in the East End are: Wilson's Plovers, Oystercatchers, and Least Terns. The 2008 East End Beach Monitoring report is

available, comments are needed. CSE completed sand compaction reading in the East End project area and compaction results are similar to native beach and compaction in the west. No tilling is necessary.

Additional birding surveys will hopefully begin in the summer.

Andy Steele, Cougar Point Golf Course

National Bird watch Open on April 10, they are participating in a national bird watch event through the Audubon Society.

Lois Bryant, ARB

The ARB asks that all signs conform to the accepted standards and the original submission by the Town for the recycling signs had too many words. Rain barrels will be accepted if they are painted the same color as homes and covered by plantings. Mr. Fister asked for a list of homes that are LEAD Certified. Mrs. Bryant asked for Mr. Fister to call in the next six months or so for more information.

Mrs. King stated that there is a local company that does rain water collection systems and installs them underground so there will be no issue with ARB compliance.

IX. Citizen Comments:

None

X. Adjournment:

Mr. Chitwood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:25pm. Mr. Given seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Catherine C. Wilson, Town Clerk

Approved by,

Harry M. McHugh, Chairman

Date