

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 2008; 1:00PM  
KIAWAH ISLAND MUNICIPAL CENTER  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order: Mr. Lipuma called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.**

**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  
Dale Anderson  
Jim Jordan, TOKI  
Norm Shea, KICA  
Dave Achey, KICA  
Liz King, KIGR  
Jim Chitwood

**Also Present:** Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk  
Sarah Latshaw, KIGR  
Scott Fister, KIGR

**Absent:** David Elliott  
Nancy Jackson, ARB

**IV. Environmental Committee Minutes of July 3, 2008**

**Mr. Chitwood motioned to approve the minutes of July 3, 2008. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Mr. Shea asked that attachments be included for absent members to refer to during the reading of draft minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.**

**V. Old Business:**

**A. Going Green, Follow Up**

Mr. Anderson presented Charleston County's recycling bulletin and recommended the use of special events e beverage containers for recycling. Mrs. Rucker agreed and stated that she hopes to use the containers during the Town's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Mrs. Rucker also stated that the Town is in negotiations with KDP to take over the maintenance of the recycling and dumpsite on Sora Rail Road behind the fire

station. Mrs. Rucker stated that Mr. Larry Weeks, KDP, will have to provide Charleston County with a 30 day notice to remove the dumpster and the Town's hauler will bring a replacement container. The Town should take over the site in September of 2008.

Mrs. Rucker stated that the Town will be incorporating a hazardous waste pick-up with the quarterly brown trash day.

Mr. Fister asked if the Town had looked into any ordinances that would promote green deconstruction on the Island. Mrs. Rucker stated that Mr. Fister should bring more information to the next meeting. Mr. Lipuma stated that "Green Deconstruction Ordinance" will be placed on the Environmental Committee's September agenda.

Mrs. King stated that the Resort is proposing a solar project to the ARB for consideration. Mr. Fister stated that there are eight states which allow property owners to install solar panels without penalty from homeowner association rules and regulations. She also requested that members spread the word about the Resort's pallet recycling program. Mrs. King informed members that the Island Connection misprinted recycling information giving credit to the Town, when it was really a Resort initiative. This year's marathon will be a certified "green" marathon and the Resort is requesting that all participants bring their own bottle and bag.

Mrs. Latshaw brought up a recent KICA listserve topic concerning KICA's decision to return certain lands to a natural landscape and resulting fears of wild animals inhabiting those areas. She asked if the Committee should respond to the fears via listserve. Mr. Lipuma suggested letting the discussion dwindle on its own and including articles on respecting, not fearing the wildlife in future additions of Town Notes.

Mr. Jordan stated that the all Town employees received reusable stainless steel bottles to cut down on the Town's overall garbage production.

## **VI. New Business:**

### **A. Nuisance and Injured Animal Calls**

Mrs. King stated that she feels it is time to clarify entity responsibility for animal calls because the Nature Center does not have enough staff to respond to the amount of calls they receive. She pointed out that the Resort handles a majority of the calls every weekend. She stated that the Nature Center has become a default for the calls because beach patrol refers all calls, except alligator calls, to the Nature Center and some residents have also been told to call the Nature Center.

Mr. Lipuma commended Mrs. King for bringing the issue to the Environmental Committee for discussion. Mr. Lipuma suggested a subcommittee to review the

division of responsibilities among the Island entities for dealing with nuisance and injured animal calls. Norm Shea, or his appointee, will represent KICA; Jim Jordan, or his appointee, will represent TOKI; and Liz King will represent the Resort.

### **B. Captain Sam's Inlet Development**

Mrs. King stated that the Nature Center conducts a large number of tours at the Captain Sam's Inlet area and have been receiving vague and conflicting information on the development plans for that area. She requested information on the Town's position to Captain Sam's Inlet development and asked if there were any clear plans she could view.

Mr. Lipuma stated any information would be gathered from KDP and asked Mr. Jordan to contact Bill Hindman and request KDP's current development plans for Captain Sam's Inlet. Mr. Lipuma added that this information would only be available if KDP had documents they felt comfortable releasing to the public. Mr. Lipuma stated that the 2005 Development Agreement clearly states how many acres are available for development and is available for anyone wishing to view the agreement. He also noted that all permitting processes apply to KDP as to any other developer.

Mr. Jordan stated that in March of 2008 he met with KDP to discuss their desire to remove Captain Sam's Inlet from the federal Coastal Barrier Resource Act (CRBA) zone in order to make development easier. Mr. Jordan explained that the land is currently in the CBRA zone and makes it ineligible for federal flood insurance. He stated that federal legislation has been proposed to change the CBRA zone around the area of Captain Sam's Inlet and that the Congressional Hearing is scheduled for September 10, 2008.

Mr. Lipuma stated that he learned of a Town Press Release supporting the federal bill just before the meeting and distributed copies to Environmental Members. Mrs. King asked how the project benefited the island's flora and fauna. Mr. Lipuma stated that he did not know how to reply to that question because he has not researched the area.

Mr. Chitwood stated that the Conservancy had been approached for support of the bill and it was his understanding that there was to be further dialogue before the legislation was presented to Congress. He thought the entities on the Island would be able to collaboratively author a plan that may allow optimal development and species protection.

Mr. Chitwood stated that to his knowledge, that dialogue did not occur before the bill was drafted. Mr. Chitwood also stated that the Conservancy was contacted for approval and he feels that it will be used in Congress to show that "all bases have been covered." Mr. Chitwood also stated that he did not feel development of that land could enhance the flora and fauna of the Island in any way.

Mr. Lipuma stated that as he understands it, no plat has been submitted for approval, and the bill only changes the CBRA zoning of the tract of land.

Mr. Shea stated that he was disappointed that this press release was not submitted to the Environmental Committee before it was released. He also stated that it made him feel like the Environmental Committee was just a committee for show rather than any substantial input when items that may be controversial are not submitted for their review.

Mr. Lipuma stated that each member could react to the Press Release however they may choose but he had no other comment because he also just received the article. Mr. Lipuma stated that he will share Environmental Committee members' opinions with the Mayor.

Mrs. King stated that with Mr. Lipuma's leadership she feels the Committee has been allowed to cover many substantial issues and thanked him for allowing the Committee to discuss the press release.

Mr. Chitwood stated that he feels that all are in favor of mutually benefiting relationships between the entities on the Island, including KDP, and that these relationships can be accomplished by proactive communication and knowledge sharing.

Mr. Lipuma concluded by stating that KDP have a history of being environmentally sound in their development of the Island and that he expects nothing less of them concerning the Captain Sam's Inlet Tract.

#### **C. September 26, 2008 Cleanup Day**

Mr. Lipuma stated that Friday, September 26, 2008 the Town will host a litter sweep on Beachwalker Drive and Kiawah Island Parkway.

#### **D. Anti-Littering Training Classes**

Mrs. Rucker stated that as part of the Palmetto Pride grant, the Town offered to host four anti-littering, recycling, or other type of environmental education class. Mrs. Rucker requested any input from the Environmental Committee on topics and or presenters for the classes.

### **VIII. Committee Member Reports:**

#### **Jim Chitwood**

Mr. Chitwood stated that the Beach Company's Kiawah River Plantation Development is moving along and the plan has been released on their website. Mr. Chitwood was pleased to see no plans to develop the hummock islands along the site.

**Norm Shea, KICA**

Mr. Shea stated that Ponds 009, 014, 085 have been excavated. Pond 035 (Bass Pond) had a fish kill on July 26, 2008 totaling approximately 1250 lbs of fish. There are 18 active alligator nests.

**Jim Jordan, TOKI (Report Attached)**

Mr. Jordan presented the wildlife report and stated that there were a total of six wildlife calls. The Osprey Nests on the cell towers have matured and the young are free flying; construction should begin next week. The fish testing results are in and all levels are within the accepted standards. The Jewel's in the Crown Series layout has been finalized; discussions continue on mailing procedures.

**Dale Anderson**

Mr. Anderson stated that the post hatch nest evaluation will be conducted on Friday, August 8, 2008 at 7:15 and the public is invited to attend.

**Liz King, KIGR**

Mrs. King stated that a petition is being circulated to comment on development around the angel oak.

**IX. Citizen Comments:**

None

**X. Adjournment:**

**Mr. Chitwood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:43PM. Mr. Shea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Catherine Wilson

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles R. Lipuma

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CC: William Wert, Mayor  
Tumiko Rucker  
Town Council