

**Environmental Committee Meeting
February 1, 2010; 3:00pm
Kiawah Island Municipal Center
Council Chambers**

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
David Elliott
Jim Chitwood
Jim Jordan, TOKI
Aaron Given, TOKI
Dale Anderson
Liz King, KIGR
Norm Shea. KICA

Also Present: Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator
Cathy Wilson, Town Clerk
Dr. Tim Kana, Coastal Science and Engineering
Scott Fister, KIGR
Andy Steele, Cougar Point Golf Course

- IV. Minutes:**
Mr. Chitwood motioned to approve the minutes of January 4, 2010. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business:

A. 2006 East End Beach Project Update 3-Dr. Tim Kana

Dr. Kana stated that he has worked with the Town since the 1980's and has really enjoyed getting to know the various members of the Environmental Committee. Dr. Kana discussed the 2006 East End Renourishment Project and updated the Committee on the current status of the beach.

Beachfront monitoring has occurred since 1999 along Kiawah's beaches. By 2007, the project was evolving properly. As of 2009, the sand is moving to the west, building the spit and forcing the channel toward the golf course. The Town has gained 100,000's of cubic yards since the 1990's. Dr. Kana stated that the Town should continue to accrete sand from the Stono River for around another 80 years. Mr. Scott Fister asked how much of the Kiawah Island sand

accretion is related to the Folly Beach renourishment project. Dr. Kana stated that very little of the sand accretion can be related to the Folly Beach renourishment project. As the Kiawah project has matured, the threat to property has lessened. Since the project end, the amount of stable dune areas remain constant, washover area has accreted (good for plovers), salt marsh has gradually increased, the sheltered inner-tidal flats have decreased because the land has been converted to marsh. Habitat areas continue to accrete. The Town has a three-mile wide barrier island lagoon system that was formed by shoal bypassing. Dr. Kana stated that nowhere has this happened as rapidly as on Kiawah. Nearly 5 million yards of sand have been added by a natural processes of sand accretion associated with shoal bypassing. If that much sand were purchased, it would cost \$25-\$50 million for the renourishment and washover areas have been well preserved.

He stated that the Island has been developed very sensitively and that the Town has made a very great commitment to the Environment by hiring Jim Jordan as the Wildlife Biologist. He stated that Kiawah gets “beat over the head” for so many things and that people should know how much the Island has done for the environment.

Kiawah Spit, West Beach Village, the Ocean Course, East and West Lagoons, and the breach near Stono Island have gained sand in the last year. Turtle Point is also seeing the benefit of accreting sand. 195 cubic yards of sand has accreted on Kiawah’s beach within the past year. Captain Sam’s (Kiawah) spit has gained 9 cubic yards per foot. Eugenia Avenue experiences the worst erosion on Kiawah based on the natural shape of the island. The East end project area gained 200,000 yards of sand since 2006 and has created 7.5 acres of new salt marsh.

Mr. Elliott asked what impact the KDP revetment will have on the Spit and Seabrook. Dr. Kana stated that he testified during the trial and that all important movement happens on the ocean side and force the channel into Seabrook. The ocean side has been building up at a rate of 8-10 feet per year. The neck is being carved out by erosion caused by marsh on Seabrook. This has pinched the channel. He stated a more elegant solution may be to dredge the marsh on Seabrook but the permitting process is very difficult. As Capt Sams continues to grow, what happens to the Seabrook side, the breaching of the neck has not occurred since 1949. There is less of a likelihood of that happening. He stated that he champions the idea of an inlet management zone between Kiawah and Seabrook.

VI. Citizen Comments:

None

VII. Committee Reports:

Aaron Given

Piping Plover surveys continue and are averaging YTD 16.4 plovers per survey, most birds have been seen on the West End. East end average is 7.5 birds. The numbers of Piping Plovers are going down on the East End which could be related to tide cycles. Three bobcats have been collared, 2 adult males and 1 adult female. Bird Banding took place in January with 145 birds caught in 2-3 hours. There were so many birds that 90-100 birds were released without banding. Of the banded birds, 134 were Yellow-Rumped Warblers. A new bird was the Savannah Sparrow. The Kiawah Island Wildlife website features the two new bobcat catches and tracks can be viewed from Google Earth.

Liz King

Mrs. King stated that up until this year, KIGR encouraged all guests to bring recycling to the Nature Center. This insured that all recyclables were being separated correctly. KIGR is working on their Earth Week celebration that will be a weeklong event with activities each day. KIGR and KICA are pairing up to do the car show on the same day as the Earth Day finale. Mrs. Rucker and Mrs. King discussed the possibility of showing electric vehicles during the event. Mrs. King invited all attendees to get involved in the Earth Day celebration. She hopes to make kayaks available to a wider group of people that would like to get involved in the annual River Sweep.

McHugh

Recycling and trash collection is in place and one condominium is partaking in an onsite collection for recycling. There are currently two public recycling drop off sites and the Town is looking into adding additional recycling drop-offs at the Sandcastle, East Beach, and Turtle Point. Those additions must be budgeted for during the FY 10-11 budget process. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Town is receiving calls daily requesting roll out recycling bins for single-family homes. The Town is the only municipality in the state that offers curbside recycling with rollout containers. Mrs. King suggested that Mr. McHugh meet with Mr. Warren, KIGR, to discuss implementing the recycling pick-up at Turtle Point.

Scott Fister,

Mr. Fister stated that he has been working on the KIGR 2010 Sustainability Initiatives. During the Marathon, the Resort collected 53 Coats, 354 Medals for Medal, 422 shoes, 252 lbs of coffee, 1,149 lbs of compost. Coffee was collected for and shipped to the 17th Airlift Squadron. KIGR has repartnered with Goodwill, who has partnered with Reconnect. Reconnect recycles e-waste and gives a portion of the profit back to Goodwill. KIGR collected 1,179 lbs of e-waste in January alone.

Mr. McHugh suggested that some of those figures be published in Town Notes. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Town's e-waste will be collected during Earth week during the Town's annual Earth Day events. Mr. Fister also discussed his recent attendance at a global warming/sea-level rise conference. He stated that the Sandcastle is hosting a solar panel discussion on February 23, 2010.

Norm Shea,

Mr. Shea stated that KICA has been cleaning up Tilapia 4500 lbs to date out of 9 ponds. The Tilapia kills are all temperature related and there are probably more to come.

David Elliott,

Mr. Elliott stated that he recently had some semi-hazardous waste and was told that the Town did not have storage capability in between the Town's hazardous waste pick-up dates. He stated that he feels that less may go into the waste if there was a drop-off site available. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Solid Waste Consultant's report established that brown trash and hazardous waste pick-ups were adequate to meet current needs but that she would be glad to look into offering hazardous waste on a quarterly basis. *The Curious Mr. Catesby* has been distributed by ETV who stream the film via internet to every school in the state. In the last month, 145 broadcasts have been shown around the country. The film will be shown during the Charleston Film Festival.

Mrs. Rucker,

The Town will have the third annual "Green Initiatives week" during the third week in April and would love to work with the Resort using kayaks to clean up the rivers. The Parkway Cleanup will be Friday, April 23. Also, the Shred-It truck will be at Town Hall and will collect e-waste during the week. The City of Tampa has recently purchased a complete fleet of electric Jeeps through EV Power Systems. These vehicles are used on the beach and reach a maximum of 40-50 miles per hour. The vehicle cost around \$10,000 and sold through the distributor only. EV Power Systems company are available to give a presentation on the vehicles. Mrs. Rucker stated that she will be glad to share the information.

Dale Anderson

Mr. Anderson noted that the Turtle Patrol does beach cleanup every morning during from Mid-May-Mid October beginning at 6:00am. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Turtle Patrol is a very dedicated group and she thanked Mr. Anderson for those efforts.

VIII. Adjournment:

Mr. Chitwood motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:29pm. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion.

Submitted by,

Cathy Wilson, Town Clerk

Approved by,

Harry McHugh, Chairman

Date