

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 4, 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
Dale Anderson
Jim Jordan, TOKI
Liz King, KIGR
Norm Shea, KICA
Nancy Jackson, ARB

Also Present: Eric Rice, TOKI
Sarah Latshaw, KIGR
Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator
Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk

Absent: Dave Achey, KICA

IV. Environmental Committee Minutes of February 12, 2008

Mr. Chitwood motioned to approve the minutes of February 12, 2008. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. Mr. Elliott and Mr. Rice made changes to the minutes. With those changes the minutes were unanimously approved.

V. Old Business:

A. Jewels in the Crown Draft Final Article

Mr. Lipuma distributed the draft final article and the committee members made various suggestions. He went on to say that “the seventh jewel is the property owner” and that this should be discussed in the final article. Mr. Lipuma stated

that Mr. Rice and Mr. Jordan have done excellent work on the Jewels in the Crown Article Series. This article will include photographs of undeveloped and developed lots in order to show how developed lots can be landscaped to restore understory habitat.

B. Going Green, Follow-Up

Mr. Lipuma commented on the green initiatives discussed by Roger Warren at the annual KPOG meeting. A good bit of the discussion was about the “bulb eater”. Mrs. King explained that the machine provides a safe and non-toxic way to recycle fluorescent tube lighting glass and dispose of the mercury inside of the light. She went on to say that it would be beneficial if the Town could use the Resort’s bulb-crusher. Mrs. Rucker explained that the Town considered purchasing a bulb-eater that would be used for the Town and the residents, given the cost other alternatives were explored which seem to better suit the Town’s bulb recycling need. The Town’s option is to collect tubes and pack them into recycling boxes designed for bulb recycling. The boxes will be stored at Town Hall until full, then shipped to a recycling facility. Mr. Lipuma stated that the Town should consider all three options for bulb recycling and weigh them economically. The Committee stated that recycling efforts of all Kiawah Island entities should be discussed during environmental committee meetings as to compliment other green initiatives Island-wide. Mr. Lipuma asked Mrs. King to clarify what the Resort could offer the Town in regards shared use of the bulb crusher for next meeting. Mr. Chitwood stated that the Town’s website would be a great venue for on-island recycling information such as battery recycling that is available at the Nature Center.

Mrs. Rucker stated that the Town has put together an in-house group to determine the best green initiatives for the Town. Once put together they plan to review these with the environmental committee for their comments. The committee in turn will cross reference green initiatives with other organizations on the island in an effort to cross fertilize.

She went on to say that the Town has received a Palmetto Pride Grant and that it is time to schedule the Kiawah Island Parkway and Beachwalker Drive Clean-Up. Mr. Lipuma stated that due to residents lack of participation in past clean-ups, the event should be held during the week as to not burden Town Staff with a Saturday Clean-Up date. The committee scheduled the date for Wednesday, April 16 with a rain date of Friday, April 18. A box lunch will be provided for participants and the Nature Center will provide naturalist with kayaks for waterway clean-up near the bridge.

- VI. Mr. Lipuma stated that he would like to add “School Funding Initiative” as item “A” and “Town Hall Parking Lot Beautification Project” as item “B” under New Business. Mr. Elliott motioned to approve. Mr. Chitwood seconded the motion; passed unanimously.**

VII. New Business

A. School Funding Initiative

Mrs. Rucker stated that she had received a request from a group at the Mt. Zion school to fund a field trip to the “Walking with Dinosaurs” exhibit at the North Charleston Coliseum. Tickets are \$32.00 per child. After discussing the exhibit, the Environmental Committee declined the request for funding. Mr. Lipuma stated that the Environmental Committee would fund educational trips to Kiawah Island, as in the past, which provides children the opportunity to explore the nature center and experience the natural life on the Island. Mr. Lipuma went on to say that the Environmental Committee would also fund a boxed lunch for the children if needed.

B. Town Hall Parking Lot Beautification Project

Mr. Jordan presented a proposal for a beautification project near the new parking lot at Town Hall. This area will feature a gazebo, butterfly garden, native vegetation and plant screens, and educational signage. Mr. Lipuma stated that this was a great idea and could be used by many people. Mrs. Jackson stated that she would help design the landscaping of the area if necessary.

Mr. Lipuma moved for the environmental committee to support the Town Hall Parking Lot Beautification Initiative. Mr. Chitwood seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

VIII. Committee Member Reports:

Liz King, KIGR

Ms. King stated that all seven restaurant entities will be certified through the sustainable seafood initiative through the aquarium. This will certify that the seafood sold at the restaurants is not harvested in a manner that is harmful to the species or the environment.

Jim Jordan, TOKI

Mr. Jordan presented the Wildlife Report for 1-16-2008 thru 2-12-2008. He went on to say that the Town has trapped an additional adult male bobcat weighing 25.2 lbs in the preserve. The same bobcat was caught as a juvenile in 2004. He stated that he and Mr. Rice are working to get a presentation segment at the 2008 Wildlife Society National Conference in Miami, FL. Mr. Jordan stated that the bobcat study was featured on ABC News 4 and the video article can be viewed from the Town’s website at www.kiawahisland.org.

Eric Rice, TOKI

Mr. Rice stated that Angel Oak Elementary will be coming out to the Resort on April 3 for a field trip that is sponsored by the Environmental Committee.

Sarah Latshaw, KIGR

Ms. Latshaw discussed the Resort's *Nature Notes* publication which has the recycling initiative outlined. She stated that on Earth Day, April 22, the Resort will receive battery and bulb recycling from anyone who brings it by.

Nancy Jackson, ARB

Ms. Jackson stated that she is in the process of saving palm trees on the Island and feels that this initiative will increase in demand.

Dave Elliott

No comment.

Bill Connellee

Mr. Connellee stated that he had received a report of two cases of beach vitex on home lots in Kiawah. These homes are not beachfront. He went on to say that Clemson University receives grants in order to do research on beach vitex and they will be handling the exterminating of the cases on the Island.

Jim Chitwood

Mr. Chitwood announced that the Environmental Science Committee is working on finalizing the Habitat Improvement Initiative for the May 12 unveiling breakfast.

Dale Anderson

Mr. Anderson announced that National Geographic has recently purchased a website called thegreenguide.com to serve as a reference for going green.

IX. Citizen Comments:

None

X. Adjournment:

Mr. Elliott motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:59PM. Mr. Chitwood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by: _____
Catherine Wilson

Approved by: _____
Charles R. Lipuma

Date: _____

CC: William Wert, Mayor
Tumiko Rucker
Town Council