

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Kiawah Island Municipal Center
Council Chambers
January 15, 2019; 2:00 PM

Minutes

I. **Call to Order:** *Mr. Jordan called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.*

II. **Roll Call:**

PRESENT: Jim Jordan, Chairman
Jim Chitwood
Jim Sullivan
Lynne Sager
Jane Ellis
Pam Wilson

KICA: Jack Kotz
ARB: Matt Hill
KIGR: Daphne Wertz
TOKI: Liz King
Aaron Given

ABSENT: David Pumphrey
Scott Nelson
Beverly Gholson

Also Attending: Stephanie Tillerson, Town Administrator

III. **Approval of Minutes:**

A. Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2018

Ms. Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2018, Environmental Committee meetings. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ellis and was unanimously approved.

IV. **Reports:**

A. **Town of Kiawah Island**

Mr. Jordan reviewed his Environmental Department Update for January:

✚ **Wild About Video Series**

- The year of Wild About video series is completed. Mr. Jordan stated that he will continue making the videos on different topics, but they will no longer be on a monthly schedule and that he is always looking for additional ideas.

✚ **Alligator Research**

- Collaborative research project with Clemson/Nemours
 - Six tags deployed, data now online
 - Graduate student in place. Fieldwork on flight distance beginning in early 2019

✚ **Bobcat GPS Study**

- 1 GPS collars still working
- Male Bobcat 750 currently on Johns Island
 - Crossed Hwy 17 18 times
 - Swam Intracoastal at Limehouse 13 times
 - Currently in a marsh near West Ashley Greenway
- Trapping scheduled to begin in early February utilizing Lotek collars that are lighter, cheaper, and hopefully will work better.

Mr. Given reviewed his report for January:

 **Marsh Sparrow Banding**

- Starts next week with banding taking place six or seven days each month until April

 **Sea Islands Christmas Bird Count**

- The Christmas Bird Count was conducted January 4, 2019, with the following stats:
 - One new species counted the Reddish Egret, not commonly seen in the winter

YEAR	# PARTICIPANTS	PARTY HOURS	PARTY MILES	# INDIVIDUALS	# SPECIES
2019	74	155.7	274.2	16,571	155
2018	35	37.8	84.5	17,157	144
2017	73	152.6	324.1	38,630	158
2016	55	143.5	384.3	21,528	158
2015	45	156.1	363.3	41,096	159
2014	51	121.0	335.1	24,067	154
2013	47	106.8	321.0	22,652	146
2012	23	27.0	73.0	19,029	132

B. Kiawah Island Community Association Land & Lakes Management

Mr. Hill reported that it is pruning time on the Island. Pond edges are being cleaned and palm trees are being pruned, which have caused some traffic tie-ups. He also reported that the Envirolok project in Inlet Cove that was reported at the last meeting is finishing up. Mr. Hill reported there was no additional information on the pond recruitment study.

C. Kiawah Island Golf Resort

Ms. King reported that in an effort to reduce plastics on the island, the Resort is giving a discount on kayak or paddleboard rentals if you bring a reusable water bottle. Ms. King also suggested monarch butterflies as a topic of interest for a video.

D. Kiawah Island Architectural Review Board

Ms. Wertz reported on the ARB's continuing research on the use of solar shingles for use on the Island as a more aesthetically pleasing alternative to the larger solar panels.

E. Kiawah Conservancy
None

F. Turtle Patrol

Ms. Sager reported that scheduling and coordination of the teams were taking place for nesting patrol. She noted that individuals wanting to volunteer have been contacting her since January 2nd.

V. Old Business

A. Kiawah Landscaping Workgroup (Grow Native)

Mr. Jordan stated that Grown Native Web Database would hopefully be finished this week and going live by the end of the month. He noted that there was still a need for photographs of native plants or trees and to please send them to him.

B. Shorebird Stewardship Program

Mr. Jordan reported that Red Knots were showing up on the beach with their numbers expected to rise in March or April.

C. Plastics Initiative

Mr. Jordan stated that at the last meeting Mr. Nelson reported on the work done by his committee and the Conservancy. He indicated that more discussion would take place as a New Business item.

The Islandwide clean-up date has been scheduled and will take place on March 5th from 10 am to Noon.

D. Beachfront Lighting Ordinance

Mr. Jordan stated that Draft # 10 of the revised Beach Lighting ordinance 2019-01 had its first reading at the January 8th Town Council meeting and was unanimously approved. Second Reading approval should be taking place in February in time for the year's Turtle Season.

E. Flood Mitigation and Sea Level Rise

Mr. Jordan reviewed some things that have changed or happened in Flood Mitigation and Sea Level Rise since the last Committee meeting:

- NEW KICA Committee looking at infrastructure associated with flooding
 - ❖ Councilman Widuch is Town Representative
- Planning Commission is incorporating recommendations into Town Comprehensive Plan starting in early February with a tentative presentation to Council in June 2019 for approval.
- Mr. Jordan indicated that he has two presentations coming up:
 - ❖ Sea Island Action Network in early February
 - ❖ SC Beach Advocates in mid-February

VI. New Business

A. Flood Mitigation Adaptation Partnership (Lucas Hernandez)

Mr. Jordan introduced Mr. Hernandez, a graduate student from the College of Charleston working with Mr. Norm Levine. He indicated that the Town has partnered with the College allowing Mr. Hernandez, through mid-2019, to work on a variety of issues including flooding

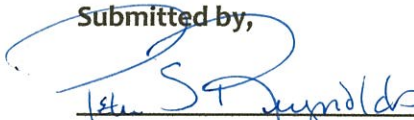
VIII. Chairman's Comments:
None

IX. Committee Member Comments:
None

X. Adjournment:

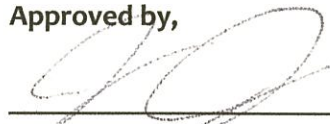
Mr. Kotz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 pm. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Schroeder and was unanimously passed.

Submitted by,



Petra S. Reynolds, Town Clerk

Approved by,



Jim Jordan, Chairman

3-12-19
Date