

MINUTES OF THE ISLE OF PALMS  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
July 10, 2013

The Isle of Palms Planning Commission met in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard on July 10, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. Members attending included Bev Ballow, Ron Denton, Patrick Harrington, Penny Lewis, Noel Scott and Don Smith. The Director of Planning Douglas Kerr was present as well. Richard Ferencz was absent. The press had been notified of the meeting, and the agenda for the meeting was posted in City Hall and the Building Department to comply with the Freedom of Information Act.

Chairman Noel Scott called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Scott explained that the first item on the agenda was the approval of the June 12, 2013 minutes. Mr. Harrington made a motion to approve the minutes with Ms. Ballow's revisions that were distributed. Mr. Denton seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**REVIEW OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – COMMUNITY FACILITIES ELEMENT**

Mr. Scott explained that the next item on the agenda was the review of the Community Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Kerr explained that he had updated the numbers in the section, including staff and equipment for each department. Additionally, he explained that he had updated the description of the drainage project between 53<sup>rd</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

Ms. Lewis suggested including the children's playground and Bark Park at the Recreation Center, and Mr. Denton suggested adding a brief description of the addition to the Recreation Center building, mentioning the year completed to alert unknowing people that the facility has been updated.

Mr. Smith suggested including the Wild Dunes project of placing electrical power lines underground and that there is a fund held by SCE&G that is dedicated to placing power lines underground. Mr. Denton suggested mentioning the recent work being done by SCE&G to tunnel under the marsh to add a redundant power source for the island.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Mr. Harrington explained that he had missed the last meeting discussion of vehicle signs and was surprised to see how quickly the Commission took action. He asked what the urgency was on this issue and what the thought process was on recommending the ordinance be amended.

Mr. Kerr explained that the code treats vehicle signs similarly in residential districts and commercial districts, and he understood the recommendation of the Commission to mean that the Commission believes that it is not unreasonable for there to be additional signage in the commercial district and for local businesses to be able to market themselves.

Mr. Denton added that he felt that there are existing signs that have been on display in the commercial district, such as the seafood company, and he did not think those signs were problematic.

Mr. Harrington stated that he did not understand why there were no limitations suggested, like limits on the number or size of signs.

Mr. Harrington asked if the subject could be discussed again by the Planning Commission. Mr. Kerr explained that the recommendation had already been made and the code had been given first reading, so he did not believe it would be appropriate to discuss the issue again. Mr. Harrington stated that he would probably state his objections at the City Council public hearing on the matter.

Mr. Scott explained that, at the last meeting, the issue of beach traffic was discussed; he asked if there were any updates. Mr. Kerr explained that the issue of reversing lanes at the time of heavy beach traffic leaving the island had been discussed by Council, and he understood that the problem was there was still a bottleneck in Mount Pleasant. Mayor Cronin was asked to describe the roadway project that was planned in Mount Pleasant. Mr. Cronin explained that the project would make traffic on and off the island two lanes all the way from Highway 17 to just past the entrance to the Piggly Wiggly (Riviera Drive).

Mayor Cronin added that the Police Department had additional help on busy weekend from the County Sheriff's office and the SC Highway Patrol. The group discussed the beach traffic in general terms.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Noel Scott, Chairman