



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4:00pm, Thursday, July 11, 2024

1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Sandra Brotherton, Mary Pringle, Todd Murphy, Laura Lovins, Doug Hatler, Dane Buckout, Council Member Miars

Absent: Lucia Spiotta, Belvin Olasov

Staff Present: Director Kerr, Zoning Administrator Simms, Asst. Director Asero

2. Citizen's Comments -- none

3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

MOTION: Ms. Lovins made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2024 meeting, and Ms. Pringle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Presentation – none

5. Old Business

A. Wildlife

Ms. Pringle said the benches have been installed at the native plants garden. She also spoke about a successful nesting season for the purple martins. She said there are approximately 50 turtle nests across the island, and they are due to start hatching next week. Many have had to be relocated due to the high tides and work on the beach.

B. Litter

Dr. Brotherton noted that there seems to be a lot more beach trash this year. Council Member Miars shared the discussion from the Public Services & Facilities Committee earlier in the week about the trash cans on the beach. Having trash cans on the beach is creating more trash on the beach. Additionally, it is logistically difficult and expensive to empty the cans. The current contract for beach trash can pickup is due to end next September, and the City would like to initiate a pilot program to help them determine the specifications of a new contract. Director Kerr explained how trash pickup is done currently, adding it will be challenging to find a replacement service. He also said that beach trash pickup is not something that can be done by Public Works since most of the trash is generated over the weekends.

The City would like to build a trash receptacle closer to the road of a beach access path to see how beachgoer behavior changes with regards to trash removal. Director Kerr said staff has identified the 25th Avenue beach access as a place where a trash corral could be built and easily monitored to provide the City with helpful data.

After discussion about the need for proper signage, it was agreed that the City would build two pilot trash corrals at 25th Avenue and another access by Wild Dunes. Mr. Murphy will help in selecting the proper access to monitor.

C. Water Quality

City Council has approved the water quality proposal, and Mr. Hatler will work with GEL to select the proper outfalls from which to pull samples.

D. Climate Action

Director Kerr reported that City Council passed a resolution in support of County Council passing their Climate Action Plan. He will forward a copy of the resolution to Committee members. The Committee will discuss steps the City can take to support the Climate Action Plan at a future meeting.

Zoning Administrator Simms said the bid for the solar panels for the Public Works building will go out next week.

6. New Business

A. Discussion of which issues to include on the website

Director Kerr said that the PR Officer is unclear as to what the Committee wants on the City's website. Dr. Brotherton will reach out to her and provide more specific information.

B. Update on EAC hosting a table at the upcoming IOP Farmers Market

Ms. Lovins said that many of the food composting buckets were given out at the June Farmers Market. She said she had information available about septic tanks, but most of the people who visited the table were already on sewer. The next Farmer's Market will be July 18.

C. Discussion of installing compost liner dispensers at compost drop-off locations

Ms. Lovins said that Megan McGill can service dispensers of compost liners for an additional \$110/month. The dispensers will cost \$191 each. Ms. McGill will review the usage of the bags and share data on a quarterly basis to determine if more or less work is needed. Director Kerr said he would reach out to Ms. McGill to get the dispensers and the bags.

6. Miscellaneous Business

7. **Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 4pm.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Hatler seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk