

**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES**

Wednesday, August 8, 2007

The regular meeting of the Town of Sullivan's Island Planning Commission was held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 in Town Council Chambers, 1610 Middle Street all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Commission members Chairman Hal Currey, Aussie Geer, Pat Votava, John Winchester, Anne Kilpatrick (arrived 6:40 p.m.) and Bobby Thompson (arrived at 6:35 p.m.); Zoning Administrator Kent Prause, Building Official Randy Robinson and Assistant to Administrator Lisa Darrow.

**I. Call to Order.** Chairman Currey called the meeting to order, stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to state law and noted all Commission members were present except Elaine Fowler, who absence was excused.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION: Ms. Votava made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Geer; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**III. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes**

**MOTION: Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the July 11, 2007 minutes as presented; seconded by Ms. Votava; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**IV. Correspondence - None**

**V. General Public Comment**

Commission member Thompson updated the Commission on his efforts to compile a list of 60+ year RC-1 zoned residential properties, not currently on the Town's three historic property lists. He reported Council was in receipt of the information and planned to utilize this list, along with the property owner mailing addresses he gathered, to assist with notifying residents of consultant Dave Schneider's evaluation of 60+ year historic properties for consideration on the historic lists. Commission members thanked Mr. Thompson for his efforts and hard work.

**VI. Unfinished Business –**

The Planning Commission queried Staff regarding the status of various ongoing issues: the Accreted Land Management Plan Consultant Services RFQ (deadline for bids will be August 31, 2007), Master Plan for Community Commercial (CC) District Professional Services RFP (deadline for bids will be October 1, 2007), the Boards and Commission selection process by Council (still pending) and the auction of 1602 Thompson Avenue, behind current Town Hall (auction scheduled by State Budget and Control Board for September 14, 2007).

Regarding Island Boards and Commissions recruitment: Chairman Currey asked about the status of Boards and Commission appointments. Ms. Votava reported she attended the August 6, 2007 Committees of Council meeting wherein a Council member suggested, and Council generally agreed, to “unofficially extend” the August 3, 2007 application deadline. Commission members questioned the meaning of “unofficial extension,” and whether recruitment would remain open indefinitely. The Commission also questioned how the deadline could be “unofficially extended” without notice being given to both current applicants and the Island as a whole.

In answer to Commission’s queries regarding recruitment advertisement, Assistant to Administrator Darrow clarified the Town advertised as follows: original display ad on July 15, 2007 with *Post & Courier*, advertisement on Home page of Town’s website (with applications available on-line) and on Comcast Channel 60.

Ms. Votava reported that at the August 5, 2007 Committees of Council meeting, it was reported that seven (7) candidates applied for the Planning Commission: four (4) incumbents and three (3) new applicants. Commission members questioned the timing and mechanics for Council’s selection of Board/Commission members. Ms. Votava clarified that Council would discuss applicants at the August 21, 2007 Council meeting, during executive session, and subsequently vote for slate of appointees in open session. Chairman Currey noted that, should a slate not be approved in August 2007, the Planning Commission By-Laws specifically allow for current members to temporarily remain on the Planning Commission beyond their September term expiration, until such time Council made final appointments. He noted that, to the best of his knowledge, there is not a limit on the number of times an individual could be re-appointed to the Planning Commission.

## **VII. New Business -**

### **1. Residential Structures over 60 years old: historical significance and protection**

The Planning Commission discussed the issue of residential homes over 60 years old and restricting demolition or significant alteration of these homes. They noted an ordinance to this effect was scheduled for First Reading by Town Council on July 21, 2007. Ms. Votava reported that the proposed ordinance failed to achieve first reading, for lack of majority vote by Council. Thereafter, the Commission discussed the evaluation of these homes by consultant Dave Schneider, projected for late September/early October, and how the Commission could encourage future reconsideration of this matter by Council or the Design Review Board.

Commission members noted that four (4) of the seven (7) members’ terms are due to expire in September and the composition of the new Planning Commission in October could be significantly different, with the new body possibly having different objectives and goals.

**MOTION: Ms. Kilpatrick made a motion to place the following on the September 2007 agenda: Planning Commission body should revisit the approximately 100 homes potentially eligible for the historic list (due to age of 60+ years and location on the Island), and explore the Commission's role in promoting action on the final list consultant Dave Schneider will prepare; seconded by Mr. Winchester.**

**Discussion:**

Commission members speculated on Town Council's intent for the study results from consultant Dave Schneider. The Commission stressed the need for Town Council to act upon the results of the study, either by placing the properties on the Town's historic lists and/or recommending the same to the Design Review Board.

After discussion regarding what role, if any, the Planning Commission could play in encouraging such action, Chairman Currey suggested inviting the Chairman of the Real Estate Committee of Town Council to the September 2007 meeting, to brief the Commission on the future of historic study.

**MOTION TO AMEND: Ms. Kilpatrick made a motion to amend her main motion to invite Town Council Real Estate Committee Chairman Pat O'Neil to the September 2007 Planning Commission meeting, to discuss the study of 60+ year Island residences by consultant Dave Schneider; seconded by Mr. Winchester.**

**Call for the question on the Amended Motion:**

**All voted in favor; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

**2. September 2007 Planning Commission Meeting** - Ms. Votava noted that the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting on September 12, 2007 fell on a significant Jewish holiday, Rosh Hashana, which would begin at sundown. The Commission discussed the possibility of changing the meeting date, but no action was taken.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned (motion by Ms. Votava; seconded by Chairman Currey; unanimously passed) at approximately 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Darrow  
Asst. to Administrator

Approved at the September 20, 2007 Regular Planning Commission Meeting