



**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA
LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

The Land Use and Natural Resources (LUNR) Committee met at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at Town Hall (2056 Middle St.), all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been met. Present were:

Committee members: Gary Visser (Chair), Carl Hubbard, and Pat O'Neil

Staff: Charles Drayton, Town Administrator Joe Henderson, Rebecca Fanning, and Pam Otto

- A. Call to Order.** Chair Visser called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., stating the press and public were duly notified pursuant to state law, and all Committee members were present.

Media: None present

Public: Three (3)

B. Action Items

- 1. Discussion of stockpiled Army Corps of Engineers sand on Sullivan's Island to determine if a town policy should be adopted for the sand deployment and distribution**

Town Administrator Joe Henderson stated after a request from two residents to use the stockpiled sand left by the Army Corps of Engineers, Town staff decided a policy needed to be established regarding said sand. Staff reached out to Steven Traynum from the consultant company Coastal Science and Engineering, that handled the project, for suggestions. The estimated amount of sand was expected to be 5,000 cubic yards but the project only ended up providing around 1,500 cubic yards. Mr. Traynum suggested possibly using the sand in future dune restoration projects at Breach Inlet and Station 12 and also possibly re-vegetating some areas of dunes where needed and not be available for private use. While the Town will not be providing this particular sand to anyone, property owners are able to apply for permits and possibly do small restoration projects near and around their property. Mr. Henderson stated the Town does not need to apply for permits now but suggested we continue to stockpile the sand and use it in the future when needed. He then took questions from the Committee.

2. Discuss establishing a cooperative project with State education institutions for establishing intern positions to benefit natural areas on Sullivan's Island

Rebecca Fanning presented different options on what different educational partnerships the Town could participate in. These included 1) utilizing Town property as field labs for professors to use in their classes or as a field trip, 2) extending Town property as a research facility, likely used in a graduate program thesis project, or 3) hiring a student intern. A hybrid option could also be possible, which would be a student using Sullivan's Island in their thesis research and also becoming a paid part-time intern that could assist staff with various tasks while completing their research. She provided different possibilities for projects as well as benefits for allowing these to happen. She then took questions from the Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. O'Neil, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, to recommend to Council to seriously consider establishing at least a pilot internship program as described by Rebecca Fanning, passed unanimously.

Chair Visser asked if doing all three was possible and had questions about costs to the community. Mr. Henderson asked Council to consider either one (1) of the options or a hybrid option.

3. Discussion of continue trimming and maintenance of Battery Logan

Tim Harrell from the Friends of Battery Logan thanked Town Council, Joe Henderson, and Rebecca Fanning for their assistance with the first phase of clean-up. There were some changes made to the original landscaping plan and he feels there is more work to be done. Ms. Fanning made remarks about the original landscaping plan, reviewed the changes made and why, and made suggestions on how to move forward. She also mentioned the need to continue maintenance and landscaping to keep it clean.

Public Comment:

- Ned Higgins, 1408 Middle - voiced his support for the project and stated it is a great example of compromise between parties and hopes the Town can continue with the improvements.
- Madeline McGee, 2211 I'On – agreed with Mr. Higgins about compromise and would like to see the importance of ecological interests and the importance of contributing to the resilience of the area be emphasized.

Chair Visser asked which Committee should oversee this project moving forward. Many felt either LUNR or Public Facilities would be a good fit. Mr. Henderson mentioned the possibility of adding a line item in the next Capital budget for facilities maintenance, which could include Battery Logan.

4. Discussion and recommendation for Arbor Day native plantings exhibit site.

Ms. Fanning reviewed the plans for Arbor Day, which includes the new addition of having students from Sullivan's Island Elementary School participate and the installation of a demonstration garden. Returning will be demonstrations, giveaways, and a live band in the afternoon. Chair Visser requested this information also be presented at the next Council meeting.

C. Adjourn

Motion: Motion was made to adjourn at 11:02 a.m. by Mr. O'Neil, seconded by Mr. Hubbard, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela A. Otto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pamela Otto, LUNR Committee Staff

Approved at the May 20, 2025 Town Council Meeting