



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Public Facilities Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 30, 2025**

- 1. Call to Order & Freedom of Information Act Requirements:** The Public Facilities Committee of Council met at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday January 30, 2025, at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Carl Hubbard (Chair), Ned Higgins, and Gary Visser. Staff members were Jason Blanton, Charles Drayton, Rebecca Fanning, Assistant Fire Chief Amanda Hawver, Town Administrator Joe Henderson, Fire Chief Anthony Stith, and Bridget Welch. There were seven (7) members of the public present and one (1) member of the media.

Chair Hubbard called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

2. Public Comment

- Lovic Waring, 2214 Myrtle Ave – suggested the Town celebrate its anniversary of becoming a town and hopes to see the palmetto trees that were cut down put to good use.
- Brent Havens, 1742 Thompson Ave – questioned the need for pocket parks and does not believe that there is need since there are already multiple places with good views of the marsh and waterway.

3. Discussion and Update of Beach Boardwalk Repairs and Replacement Project

Rebecca Fanning stated that Stations 18, 23, 26, and 28 are on the list for improvements. They are hoping to reinstall ADA access at Station 18. The Station 23 boardwalk has some rotting boards that will be repaired as well as an extension. Station 26 already has ADA access and some boards that need updating. Station 28 has some deck boards that need to be replaced. The current boards have a life span of 8-10 years, but we are switching to new material that will hopefully last 15-20 years.

4. Discussion and Update of Historical Signs

The owner of the theater property has been contacted and seems to be in favor of erecting a sign. To move forward we will need to decide on the location and do some tree trimming. Town staff will need to do a site visit.

The sign for the Cove Street Bridge will be erected once the project is completed. We use Dan Roth to create the signs and Mahoney will fabricate them. Chair Hubbard requested one of the signs be looked at for discoloration issues.

5. Discussion of Friends of Battery Logan clearing update

There have been some changes to the landscaping plan in order to preserve more habitat, especially for the many birds that live there. A lot of non-native species have already been cleared from the top of the Battery. There has been some interest in opening it to the public, but there are safety concerns that need to be addressed first. There also needs to be a long-term landscape maintenance plan. Mr. Henderson reviewed the phases of this project that have already been done and what we can expect in the future.

6. Review Feasibility of burying power lines either throughout the Island or in certain spaces where trees are subject to severe pruning by Dominion. What is the process?

Dominion has been sent data, and they will draft an RFP in order to move forward. There have been meetings to try and keep the ball rolling. Dominion has been provided with detailed survey information for the areas that were recently surveyed for the SCIIP Grant. Mr. Henderson stated the Town is willing to do more surveys should Dominion request them.

7. Update of Old Town Hall building and sub-committee

South Carolina Department of Transportation will investigate a quick claim deed for the portion of property in the right-of-way. We are awaiting feedback on a way to proceed.

8. Thomson Park Maintenance

Mr. Doug Macintyre stated that the current logs at Thomson Park have an average lifespan of about five years before they rot and are unsafe. The park is owned by the Town and Mr. Macintyre is requesting that the Town take over maintenance to keep the park clean and safe.

9. SC250 discussion for Palmetto Log Fort

Mr. Walsh stated he feels the 250th anniversary of South Carolina is something that the Town should celebrate and stated a committee has been formed and has met twice to discuss ideas on how to do so. He mentioned that Fort Moultrie National Park is not interested in having it on park grounds this year. A 3D project proposal was presented by Bill Marshall.

Mr. Marshall requested that the Committee authorize \$400 for funding the project. There are currently 50-100 logs ready to use for this project and are being stored at Battery Logan.

There was also discussion about installing signage around the Island noting the historic significance of Sullivan's Island during the Revolutionary War. He then took questions from the Committee.

10. Update on Phase 2 of nature Trail

Benches, boardwalks, and ramp have been installed, and the last step is laying the Mobi matting between Stations 18 and 18 ½. This matting will make those areas of the path ADA accessible. The new signs will be installed at Station 16 and the Lighthouse along with the way finding signs. Mr. Hubbard suggested making a sign that dedicates the trail for the Middaugh's. They will need input from other Committees and Council for the wording.

11. Discussion of Island Club renovations

Mr. Trey Sedalik requested funding for renovations for the Island Club. The Club has already spent \$75,000 on renovations from donations and has \$50,000 in reserves. They need help from the Town to continue with renovations such as improving and relocating the currently useable ADA ramp. He is requesting \$250,000, as well as making the next lease last five (5) years rather than the current one (1). The Club currently has 180 members and has a goal of 400 members. Members Bill Condon and Hunter Stunzi commented on their hopes of seeing the club continue to improve and grow in membership. They then answered questions from the Committee, specifically on the possibility of using the Old Town Hall rather than the current building.

12. Discussion of Pocket Parks

Mr. Drayton reviewed the idea that has been presented about pocket parks and some of the potential locations, which are all Town owned parcels. He mentioned that the last and current Comprehensive Plan has included language about developing green spaces such as pocket parks. He mentioned there are a number of parcels that are directly adjacent to private property that they are not considering for development. Chair Hubbard mentioned they are still just discussing the idea of possibly developing these areas and will keep any residents and property owners affected by the plans abreast of any future discussions or plans. The Committee then took questions from attendees.

13. Adjourn

Motion was made by Gary Visser, seconded by Ned Higgins, to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch