

Environment and Wildlife Committee Regular Meeting

February 22, 2024

[Watch Live on YouTube](#)



MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL & FOIA STATEMENT

Present: Gordon Weis (Councilman, chair), Fred Demler, James Geiger, Dean Morr
Absent: Mark Andrews (was virtual, then left meeting at 11:02 AM)
Staff Present: Tyler Newman (Zoning Administrator), Katharine Watkins (Asst. Town Administrator)

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Councilman Weis moved to nominate Dean Morr as Vice Chair; Mr. Demler seconded.

All voted in favor.

Mr. Morr was appointed as vice chair.

3. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The committee members introduced themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Environment and Wildlife Committee Meeting: September 14, 2023

Mr. Morr moved to approve the previous meeting minutes of September 14th; Mr. Geiger seconded. All voted in favor.

The previous meeting minutes of September 14th were approved.

5. COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2024-2025

A. Beach Management Plan, 5-year review and update

Councilman Weis summarized the proposed contract with Coastal Science and Engineering for the Beach Management Plan 5-year review and update.

Discussions were had with members of the committee.

Mr. Geiger moved to approve the contract with Coastal Science and Engineering for the Beach Management Plan 5-year review and update; Mr. Morr seconded. All voted in favor.

The committee recommended approval of the contract with Coastal Science and Engineering for the Beach Management Plan 5-year review and update.

B. Development of Marsh Management Plan

Councilman Weis summarized starting to have a Marsh Management Plan for the Town of Seabrook Island and to reach out to Dr. Nicole Elko.

Discussions and clarifications were had with the committee.

C. Environment & Wildlife Conservation Grant

Discussions were had on the proposed Environment & Wildlife Conservation Grants and the criteria.

Mr. Morr moved to approve the proposed Environment & Wildlife Conservation Grants and the criteria.; Mr. Geiger seconded. All voted in favor.

The Environment & Wildlife Conservation Grants and criteria were approved.

D. Statement of Support for the Shorebird Steward Program

Councilman Weis summarized the Statement of Support for the Shorebird Steward Program.

Discussions were had with members of the committee. Bob Mercer, Vice President of Seabrook Island Birders, summarized what the Shorebird Steward Program does.

Mr. Morr moved to approve the Statement of Support for the Shorebird Steward Program; Mr. Geiger seconded. All voted in favor.

The committee recommended the council to approve the Statement of Support for the Shorebird Steward Program.

E. Discussion of Beach Bonfire Permits and working with St. Johns Fire District (SJFD) on enforcement

Councilman Weis proposed bringing beach bonfire permits issuance from the town.

Discussions were had with members of the committee.

F. Public Informational meeting hosted by the Town of Seabrook Island and Camp St. Christopher on Coyotes and Seabrook Island

Councilman Weis noted there will be a public information meeting on coyotes on March 25th at 7:00 PM.

Discussions were had with members of the committee.

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Demler moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Morr seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM.

Date: February 22nd, 2024

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*
Assistant Town Administrator

Note: These minutes are not verbatim minutes. To listen to the meeting, please use the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/@townofseabrookisland5287/streams>