

TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND

Environment & Wildlife Committee Regular Meeting
March 9, 2023



Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

[Watch Live Stream \(YouTube\)](#)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Jeri Finke (Chair), Mark Andrews, Martha Goldstein, Dean Morr,
Absent: Patti Romano
Guests: None.
Staff Present: Joe Cronin (Town Administrator), Katharine Watkins (Town Clerk)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

The approval of the previous meeting minutes of February 9th, 2023, and January 31st, 2023, were postponed. All previous meeting minutes will be up for vote at the next Committee Meeting.

New Business

None.

Old Business

- 1) Review of January briefing presented by Dr. Abby Sterling (Georgia Shorebird Conservation Initiative) and development of any follow-up questions for her prior to and in preparation for her presentation to Town Council on March 14.

Chair Finke updated the committee on the upcoming presentation by Dr. Abby Sterling during the Town Council Work Session on March 14th at 1:00PM.

The Committee discussed including the Seabrook Island Property Owners Association during the presentation by Dr. Sterling, the various entities that could be involved with application process for the Town of Seabrook Island to become a site of Western Hemispheric Importance, and if the designation could be taken away from the Town with relation to the potential movement of Captain Sams Inlet and a potential letter of support from Manomet with regards to the protection of shorebirds.

- 2) Continued discussion of revisions to Town's beach ordinance

Chair Finke inquired to the Committee if they would like a chart to review when discussing the potential edits to the Beach Ordinance.

The Committee discussed recent comments received related to the potential changes to fishing regulations.

A discussion was had on including various stakeholder meeting to hold discussions on the potential edits to the beach ordinance.

A discussion was had signage on the beach regarding swimming at Captain Sams Inlet and how the Town advertises the seasonal beach ordinance changes.

A discussion was had on fire permits for bonfires and potentially having the Town taking over the issuance and enforcement of these permits and how surrounding communities handle fires on the beach.

A discussion was had on other beach communities with regards to activities on the beach such as photo shoots and yoga classes.

Mr. Andrews noted the upcoming shorebird research activity on the beach.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 2:16PM.

Date: March 9, 2023

Prepared by: *Katharine E. Watkins*
Town Clerk/Treasurer