

TOWN OF SEABROOK ISLAND

Community Promotion & Engagement Committee

Regular Meeting

May 16, 2024

MINUTES

Members Present: Bruce Kleinman, Chair, Jean Conyers, Bernie McLaughlin, Larry Phillips, Susan Soden

Members Absent:

Guests Present: Louise Baucom (Blessing Basket representative), Bill Breunsbach (Seabrook Island Photography Club representative), Lauren Rust (Lowcountry Marine Mammal Network representative)

Staff Present: Joe Cronin, Katharine Watkins, Abby Grooms

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL & FOIA STATEMENT

Mayor Kleinman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Mr Cronin confirmed that the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act were fulfilled, and the meeting agenda was properly posted.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Kleinman reviewed the minutes of the April 18th, 2024 meeting. Mr McLaughlin noted a correction to the minutes, i.e., “grant awards up to \$1,200” amended to “grant awards up to \$2,500.” Mr McLaughlin made a motion to approve the minutes as amended which was seconded by Ms Conyers. The motion for APPROVAL was unanimous.

3. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. 2024 Community Promotion Grants

a. AMOR Healing Kitchen

A representative from Healing Kitchen was not in attendance to discuss the program and clarify the purpose of grant request. Mr Phillips made a motion to defer the discussion of this grant request to a future meeting when a representative from AMOR Healing Kitchen could be available to discuss the program. The motion was seconded by Ms Conyers and unanimously APPROVED.

b. Seabrook Island Photography Club

Mr Breunsbach reviewed the purpose of the grant request which includes fees for website management, presentation software and electronic equipment. Mr McLaughlin moved a recommendation for approval of the grant request in the amount of \$1,300 which was seconded by Ms Soden. The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

c. Sea Islands Hunger Awareness Foundation – Blessing Baskets

Ms Baucom discussed the Blessing Baskets program and reviewed the grant request. Following a discussion concerning the extent to which the grant request met the criteria for the Community Promotion Grants, Ms Conyers moved to defer the discussion to a later date. The motion was seconded by Mr Phillips and unanimously APPROVED.

d. Lowcountry Marine Mammal Network

Ms Rust presented the purpose of the grant request which is intended to focus on community awareness and education by increasing signage on the beach and boardwalk as well as updating the information boards on Boardwalks 1 and 9. Mr McLaughlin moved to recommend approval of the request at an increased level of \$2,500 which was seconded by Ms Soden. The motion was unanimously APPROVED.

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

A. Discussion of proposed Media Relations Policy

Mr Cronin and Ms Grooms reviewed the draft of the Media Relations Policy. Following a discussion, several editorial recommendations were made:

Paragraph 1 under **GENERAL PROVISIONS**, change the word “responded” to “addressed”; under **Sensitive and Controversial Issues**, change “and/or” to “and”; under **Personal Points of View**, underscore “do not represent the views of the Town”.

B. Upcoming Events

a. Chow Town Food Truck Rodeo (May 22nd from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM @ Town Hall)

Ms Grooms confirmed that all details for the upcoming events as noted above have been confirmed. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

b. Disaster Awareness Day (May 31st from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM, Registration required)

Ms Grooms confirmed the details of the upcoming Disaster Awareness Day and reminded the committee that registration is required for those planning on attending.

4. COMMITTEE COMMENTS (none)

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr McLaughlin. The motion was APPROVED unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2024 1:00 PM.

Prepared by: Jean Conyers
Date: May 18, 2024