

**MINUTES
TIDE COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 6, 2021**

Present Committee Members: Chairperson Pat Kostell, Peter Beck, Ron Scroggy, and Betsy Daise

Present Ex Officio: Town Administrator Iris Hill and Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus.

Absent: Charles Yeomans (notice given), Cameron Andrews (no notice given), and Marie Bost (notice given to Utilities Clerk, Teri Bloomingdale)

Call to Order: Chairperson Kostell called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: Peter Beck moved to change the minutes from September 1, 2021, to reflect that Charles Yeomans gave prior notice of his absence to Cameron Andrews. Betsy Daise seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Comments from the Town Administrator:

Administrator Hill updated the committee on the current progress of bids out to mow the causeway. Ms. Hill informed the committee that the bike bridge beside the Marina had been repaired. Ms. Hill informed the committee that Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus was in the process of getting quotes for a beach mat to replace the walkway at beach access 37. Ms. Hill mentioned that the public works department had been cleaning up beach accesses but that the Town was going to bid maintenance of the beach accesses. The committee discussed the scope of work that would be contracted out for the beach accesses and Mr. Ron Scroggy voiced concerns with renourishing or maintaining natural foliage and wildflowers. Mr. Ron Scroggy also mentioned to the committee that he believed accommodating golf carts on beach accesses should not be a priority and believes more parking spaces will not maintain the vision of Edisto. Chairperson Kostell mentioned that beach accesses 18 and 19 looked great and that she also believed maintenance of these accesses should not include cutting natural wildflowers or foliage. Mr. Peter Beck mentioned that the TIDE committee has always believed in safety first. He discussed why the beach accesses were opened to provide parking for cars and golfcarts and stated that he believed safety was above keeping wildflowers and foliage. Ms. Hill mentioned that Town Council wants to maintain all beach accesses including opening accesses for parking. Chairperson Kostell thanked Town Administrator Hill for improving the walkway at Burley Lyons Park.

Old Business:

Chairperson Kostell asked Administrator Hill for an update on Christmas decorations. Ms. Hill informed the committee that the Town had purchased additional holiday banners and new hardware. Ms. Hill also mentioned that the Town ordered two new lighted decorations, one Marlin and one Pelican. Chairperson Kostell and Administrator Hill discussed the placement of the decorations.

Chairperson Kostell thanked Peter Beck for his diligence with updating the beach access adoption form. Ms. Kostell discuss her concerns regarding the low number of volunteers for beach access adoption and mentioned that she had reached out to Kelly Moore and asked if the TIDE committee could promote or help with beach access adoption. Ms. Hill asked the TIDE committee to volunteer for beach access adoption. Chairperson Kostell will adopt beach access 19, Peter Beck will adopt beach access 5, Ron Scroggy will adopt beach access 7 and Betsy Daise will adopt beach access 21. Ms. Hill stated that she would speak with Wyndham Resort about adopting the Cabana beach access.

Chairperson Kostell discussed the results of the beach sweep that was held on September 18, 2021.

New Business:

Peter Beck asked that the bylaws be updated from 2012 to 2021 and asked that the committee review the bylaws and come back with additions, corrections, deletions at the next meeting. Ron Scroggy moved to have the committee review the bylaws and come to the next meeting with recommendations. Chairperson Pat Kostell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kostell asked for an update on the handicap beach accesses. Administrator Hill discussed certain obstacles that arose with SCDOT. Ms. Kostell discussed adding new walkways and filling in eroded sand areas around the mats and walkways.

Ron Scroggy mentioned to the committee that he had spoken with beach patrol, and they had mentioned that this past summer had been hard, and visitors were very disorderly and rude. Mr. Scroggy asked Administrator Hill if there was any discussion of eliminating alcohol on Edisto Beach, similar to the surrounding beaches. Administration Hill informed Mr. Scroggy that Town Council had not discussed that option.

Chairperson Kostell informed the committee that her term on the TIDE committee had expired and that she would not be applying for another term. Ms. Kostell thanked the committee for all their hard work and dedication. Administrator Hill thanked Chairperson Kostell for being a part of the TIDE committee and for helping Edisto Beach reach its goals. Ms. Kostell stated that Mr. Peter Beck would be the next Chairman of the TIDE committee.

Peter Beck discussed the committee meeting time schedule and informed the committee that Charles Yeomans was an advocate for changing the time schedule so it could better fit his work schedule. Mr. Beck also mentioned that changing the time schedule could potentially encourage new and younger members to apply. Ms. Hill stated to the committee that the new time would have to be during Town Hall business hours. Mr. Peter Beck mentioned that if the time schedule was changed, the bylaws would also need to be changed and presented to Town Council.

Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus updated the committee on the progress of the new welcome sign for Edisto Beach.

Adjournment:

Peter Beck moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Betsy Daise, which was unanimously approved.

APPROVED BY THE TIDE COMMITTEE



Angela K. Davis