

WIPLC MEETING FEBRUARY 2019

Members attending: Madge Hallett, Henry Holst, April Long, Kevin Richbourg, Arthur Rivers, Leroy Robinson, Robert Siedell, Pam Skinner, Chris Sosnowski, John Taylor

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin Richbourg at 7:00 p.m.

1. The invocation was given by Arthur Rivers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
2. January meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

- A. Zoning: Two plats were submitted that meet all requirements. There is no new information on the mining operation other than they have downgraded their application to approx. 30 acres. WILPC decided to be proactive and write another letter to the County Planning and Zoning and to DHEC to state that WILPC is against the commercial mining operation. We received a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the mitigation bank on Point Farm Rd. No new information there and it will be unlikely that there will be a public hearing on the mitigation bank. There will be another community meeting about the John's Island overlay at St. John's HS on February 22 at
- B. Fire Commissioner: Mrs. Jones reminded everyone to get up, get busy and do what you can to help others on the island. There were a total of 201 fires: Johns Island – 125, Wadmalaw – 22, Kiawah – 32, Seabrook – 22. Three recruits are being trained, Sixty smoke detectors were installed. She said to please drive carefully, Maybank Hwy was closed for 3 ½ hours for an accident last week that killed one person.
- C. Education: St. Johns HS is still in need of volunteers to come by and participate in the school. The state is planning to intervene next school year due to their low academic performance. Principal Larson has requested "all hands on deck" from the community and has met with local clergy in a meeting last month. Robert Siedell said that he interviewed Mr. Larson for the newsletter and there will be suggestions in the article for volunteering. Also, on January 28, the Charleston Shared Future Project was completed and a presentation was held at Burke HS regarding the outlook of education in Charleston County by 2035. Aaron White attended the presentation along with some other community members. The findings are based on 4 scenarios of how education would look in Charleston by 2035 and information that's crucial to our district specifically to include diversity, curriculum and technology in rural areas. Findings are posted online and links to the project are on Charleston County School District's website.
- D. Rockville Liaison: Henry Holst told everyone that everything is calm at Rockville. He asked for Boy Scout Rd and Cherry Point Rd be added to the trash pickup brigade.
- E. Communications: Robert Siedell said the next newsletter would come out May 1 and the deadline for articles will be April 5.
- F. Community Center: There will be a pot luck ping pong tournament February 22. The Plantation Singers will be performing March 16 from 12:00 – 2:00.

From the audience: Hearing explosions off of Boy Scout Rd. Could be target practicing and big booms. Possibly Tannerite explosions. We need to be vigilant.

Someone suggested getting a journalist to write a story about defending lifestyle on Wadmalaw. Pam Skinner said that we should get help from our representatives Wendell Gaillard, Robert Brown and Margie Bright Williams.

Arthur Rivers reported that the sign across from the tea plantation that is down. Kevin reminded everyone to report to SCDOT and be sure to get your work order number. Arthur said he would report it.

There should be an article on road safety in the Wadmalaw Newsletter. There are no deer signs on the roads. Leroy Robinson said that he would call to request deer safety signs. Chris Sosnowski said that DOT refused to put a sign up 12 years ago.

John Rhoden from Habitat Humanity came to make an announcement that in addition to building new homes, they now do repairs. They are looking for more property to build houses on as well. Right now they have 2 acres on Katy Hill Rd for homes to be built on.

Tori Bolt, resident, reported that they purchased land and built 4 cottages with the plan to rent three of them short term. Just when they were finishing building, the county changed the zoning laws and now they prohibit short term rentals unless you live in the dwelling – they would not count living on the property. County Planning and Zoning has told her the only thing they can do is apply for a PUD (which they really don't want to do) and they would like to have the WILPC blessing. They would put most of the property in a conservation easement. WILPC said that this would be setting a precedent but we sympathize with her and will have to think about it. She is having a cookout Sunday, March 3 at 2:00 p.m. at 6569 Maybank Hwy. and invited everyone to come and learn more about what they want to do. Please spread the word.

The owners of the dirt road part of Katy Hill Rd. wanted to let everyone know that they will be closing the road for a period of time to make repairs. Also, please call DOT about pavement on Liberia Rd.

Rev. Jones asked about the proposal being made to have Wadmalaw roads be designated "SC Scenic Byways." Robert Siedell explained that "Keep Wadmalaw Beautiful" (local affiliate of Keep America Beautiful) was proposing to place additional signs on Wadmalaw roads to support a 'litter free' environment and encourage residents to treat our roads similar to 'parkways' in various parts of the country. There is already one of these signs on Maybank Highway (near the fork).

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Collected for WICC: \$50.00