

WILPC MEETING APRIL 9, 2019

Attending members: Bob Cox, Madge Hallett, Burrow Hill, Henry Holst, April Long, Mike Regan, Kevin Richbourg, Arthur Rivers, Robert Seidell, Pam Skinner, Chris Sosnowski (11)

Estimated Audience: 20

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin Richbourg at 7:00 p.m.
2. The invocation was given by Arthur Rivers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
3. The minutes for the March 2019 meeting were presented and accepted, with the addition of the Charleston County Zoning Board minutes .
4. Chairman Kevin Richbourg read the WILPC mission statement and asked for contributions for the Community Center.

Subcommittee Reports:

A. Zoning:

1. BZA setback variance request for setback at Fairview Plantation Rd. WILPC is opposed to setback. Biggest issue is “buyer beware”, still trying to get to the bottom of why it was allowed to be a .69 acre lot in 2001. Pretty sure illegal non conforming property. Does not see any hardship regarding this property. Owner was given a 90 day deferral to change architectural plans. She can build a functional home on the property. This does not create a hardship for the owner. WILPC does not want our zoning to be weakened or changed. All 8 neighbors are against this request.
2. Sand Pit – Pam Skinner talked to Ryan at DHEC. It still hasn't been approved. They are waiting on the water bureau and reviewing 152 comments about the sand pit. The public hearing will be held at the WICC when they have it. The owner of the sand pit has not gotten a special exception permit yet. They have started logging the property. That is allowed. The county will want to monitor the work and the truck traffic route. Mike Regan said it was originally 40 acre pit but now it is 21 and no point discharge. Their application is incomplete. At some point there will be a public hearing. Please review the SC mining act. The state will approve this unless it doesn't meet all criteria. It doesn't matter the size of the pit, it will still be a special exception to the Ag-15 zoning and we do not want to set a precedent of changing the existing zoning. There are environmental and shallow well considerations and traffic impacts as well. Please continue to write DHEC regarding this issue. Burrow Hill requested names and addresses and talking points to be put on the website or the May newsletter. Robert Seidell said they would put information in the newsletter. Mike Regan requested help in following these high profile issues on our island.

3. Bolt Farm Tree Houses – county has received a draft PUD request and they will be reviewing it. The rental permit has expired and they have not issued any new permit yet. Please send letters to Charleston County Code Enforcement and report any violations to planning@charlestoncounty.org. Burrow suggested meeting with County chairman. Tori Bolt said that they are in compliance. Charlie Muir offered an apology about his comments at the March meeting.

B. Newsletter:

The newsletter will be coming out the first week in May.

C. Fire Commissioner March Report:

Mrs. Jones reported that there were 145 fires on John's Island, 40 on Wadmalaw, 36 on Kiawah and 26 on Seabrook for a total of 247 fires. Fire Commission meetings take place the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 at headquarters on Johns Island.

D. Rockville:

Henry Holst reported that all was quiet on Rockville. They had a road clean up for Boy Scout Rd and Cherry Point Rd. on March 5 and 14 bags of trash were collected. The next time will be April 20 at 8:30 a.m. and will meet at Maybank and Boy Scout Rd/Cherry Point Rd. They need more volunteers.

E. Community Center:

Bob Cox reported that the event on Saturday night was a success.

F. New Business:

Robert Seidell reported that a year ago they formed an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful called Keep Wadmalaw Beautiful. There are more than 100 people involved and they do trash pick up every week. You can see an improvement in the amount of litter – permission is withdrawn to litter by keeping roads clean. There has been a 50% decrease in litter. They want to have the Harts Bluff, Bears Bluff, Maybank and Liberia roads on Wadmalaw declared SC scenic highways. There would be small signs

erected that say SC scenic highway and they would be listed on the state website that has a list of scenic highways in SC. There would not be an increase in traffic. The only restriction would be that we cannot put any billboards up on these roads. He asked for WILPC to endorse this proposal. There was a motion to support this proposal and it passed.

Elizabeth and Bryan McKeown expressed their concern about clear cutting on corner of Maybank and Boy Scout Rd. and a pond that is being built. Mike Regan said that ponds 2 acres or less are allowed on Ag-15. They are also opposed to the sand mine on Bears Bluff Rd. and are concerned that it could become a huge development.

Mike Regan reminded everyone to please make comments to DHEC about the sand pit. The state will deny it if it endangers wildlife, water, ground water quality, physical hazard – there are churches and community center nearby, traffic, etc. Please read the SC mining act.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Amount collected for WICC: \$75

Respectfully submitted,

Madge Hallett