

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
WADMALAW ISLAND LAND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Article I -Authority**

The Wadmalaw Island Land Planning Committee was founded in February 1987 at the behest of the Charleston County Council by the petition mandate of over 550 residents of Wadmalaw Island.

**Article II -Purpose**

The purpose of this Committee is:

to preserve and maintain the unique and cherished character and beauty of Wadmalaw Island that are in imminent danger from unplanned and inappropriate development;

to study, draft, and recommend a zoning and land use plan for that unincorporated portion of Charleston County, South Carolina, which comprises for zoning purposes the area of Wadmalaw Island and adjacent waters;

to conduct the Committee's study with the assistance of the Charleston County Planning Department staff to the extent such Staff assistance may be requested by the Committee Chairman;

to endeavor to implement, maintain, and assist in the effective operation of the plan when it shall be recommended by the Committee;

to design the plan for the purposes, among others, of

- a) lessening congestion in the roads and streets,
- b) protecting the development of both urban and rural areas,
- c) securing safety from fire, flood, erosion and other dangers,
- d) providing adequate water, sewer, light and air,
- e) promoting health, general welfare, and pollution free environments,
- f) encouraging such distribution of population and such classification of land uses and distribution of land development and utilization as will tend to facilitate economic and adequate provisions for transportation, communications, roads, waterways, water supply, drainage, sanitation, education, recreation, or other public requirements,
- g) conserving and developing the natural resource, and
- h) protecting agriculture and aquaculture and the food supplies from both lands and waters;

**AND FURTHER to make recommendations in accordance with a comprehensive plan designed for the purposes herein stated;**

**to make all such recommended regulations with reasonable consideration, among others, to the unique and cherished character of Wadmalaw Island and the adjacent waters and their peculiar suitability and non-suitability for particular uses, to the minimum and maximum amounts of land, water and road frontages, setback, height, etc. required for particular uses and with a general view to maintaining and promoting desirable living conditions and the quality of life for all inhabitants, plants, and animals, and the sustained stability of neighborhoods, protecting property against blight, pollution, nuisance, and depreciation, securing economy in government expenditures and encouraging only the most appropriate land use and only the most appropriate development of land and opposing unplanned and inappropriate development or use of land, and giving top priority to preserving the unique and cherished character and beauty of Wadmalaw Island and its adjacent waters;**

**AND FINALLY, to do any other act that shall be deemed by the Committee to be proper in the furtherance of the above objectives and in the discharge of the public trust and confidence bestowed upon the Committee at the request of Wadmalaw Island residents to represent the diverse interests in the Island and to study, recommend, and work for a land use plan for the proper and orderly development of Wadmalaw Island.**

### **Article III. Membership**

**Section I. The Committee shall be limited to a maximum of 18 members.**

**Section II. Members of the Committee shall be residents or property owners on the island.**

**Section III. The term of membership shall be three (3) years, after which a member must be off the Committee for at least one year before being eligible for re-election.**

**Section IV. If a vacancy occurs on the Committee prior to fulfilling of the term, then nominations shall be made at the next meeting following a vacancy announcement by a nomination from the nominating committee. Nominations may also be made by members of the full Committee or by the public. The election shall be held following presentation of the slate of nominees.**

**Section V. Membership shall be terminated either by:**

- (a) voluntary resignation in writing by a member of the Committee;**
- (b) three unexcused absences from regular business meetings; or**

(c) expulsion as provided in Article IV.

#### Article IV. Expulsion of Members

Section I. Any member of the Committee may prefer charges against a member for alleged dereliction of duty or misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Committee. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly send a copy of the charges to each member of the Committee or present them at the next regular meeting of the Committee. The Committee shall first consider whether the actions alleged in the charges, if proven, might constitute dereliction of duty or conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Committee. If the Committee considers that the charges do not allege dereliction of duty or conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Committee, it may refuse to entertain jurisdiction. If the Committee entertains jurisdiction of the charges, it shall fix a date of a hearing not less than two (2) nor more than six (6) weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

Section II. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Committee may, by secret ballot and by a two-thirds vote of those present, suspend the defendant from all activities of the Committee not more than six (6) months from the date of the hearing. And, if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend that the penalty be expulsion. Immediately after the Committee has reached a decision, its finding shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the decision and penalty, if any.

#### Article V. Organization

##### Section I. Committee Structure

A) A member shall be elected Chairman and as such shall preside at Committee meetings, appoint committees and sub-committees, and represent the Committee in an official capacity to the council of government and the public at large. The Chairman shall sign all documents which have received the majority approval of the Committee and may, in an emergency situation, represent the Committee in spoken or written word after conferring with the Vice-Chairman.

B) The Vice-Chairman shall have the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair in case of the Chair's death, absence or incapacity.

C) The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings and of all matters of

which a record shall be ordered, notify members of meetings, and prepare correspondence as directed by the Chair.

D) Any member may be appointed pro-tem by the Chairman, acting with the advice and consent of the Committee, to act in the function of any officer and when so appointed shall have all the powers and duties of such office during the period of occupancy.

## Section II. Sub-Committees

A) The Committee may organize its members into such study, drafting or other committees or sub-committees as the Chairman finds needful and the Committee approves. Such sub-committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Committee.

B) Any Committee appointed may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership; and the Chair may appoint successors to those persons whose services have terminated.

## Article VI. Meetings and Elections

### Section I. Regular Business Meetings

The regular business meeting of the Committee shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Community Center, Katy Hill Road, Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina or at such other place and time as the Chairman may schedule. At each regular business meeting, there shall be a time provided by the Chairman for the Committee to receive written or oral information, statements, petitions or questions from the public and the press.

### Section II. Other meetings

A) The Chairman or a majority of the full Committee has the right to call special meetings to deal with important matters that may arise between regular meetings and that urgently require action by the Committee before the next regular meeting. Notice of the time, place, and exact purpose of the meeting must be communicated to all members five days in advance of the special meeting. Only business mentioned in the call of a special meeting can be transacted at such a meeting.

B) Other meetings of sub-committees or individual members may be held as may be expeditious in preparing work or items to be presented to the full Committee in writing for final action at regular business meetings of the Committee.

### Section III. Quorum

Six members shall constitute a quorum for doing business at any meeting of

the Committee.

#### Section IV. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting shall be held as the regular business meeting in the month of November at which members for the ensuing year shall be elected by a secret, written ballot of the Committee membership from among those nominated in accordance with Section VI of this article. Once the Committee is selected, they shall elect officers. Officers shall assume duties at the conclusion of the election and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

#### Section V. Elections

The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office or vacancy shall be declared elected. All officers are elected for a one-year term with a maximum of two years in office. The term limits of Chairman, Vice-chairman and Secretary do not count towards the full 3-year term as a committee member.

#### Section VI. Nominations

During the regular business meeting in September, the Chair shall select a Nominating Committee consisting of three members. The Chair shall name a chairman of the committee and it shall be their duty to provide a slate of nominees membership at the October regular business meeting. Additional nominations may be made at the October meeting by any member in attendance or by the general public, provided that the person so nominated has indicated a willingness to be a candidate.

#### Article VII. Rules of Order

Section I. The rules of order contained in Roberts Rules of Order, most recent edition, shall govern the Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section II. A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chair to act in an advisory capacity only.

#### Article VIII. Amendments

Section I. The membership shall adopt and may from time to time revise the Constitution and Bylaws as may be required to carry out the purpose of the Committee.

Section II. Amendments must be submitted in writing to the full Committee for a vote within two months of the date when submitted.

Section III. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at two consecutive regular or special meetings called for the purpose, provided the proposed have been included in the notice of meetings and mailed to each member at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of said meetings.

The revised Constitution and By-Laws were duly approved, ratified, adopted, published and made effective on September 9, 1997.

Lewo Hanz  
Chairman of the Committee

Attested by [Signature], Secretary

Endorsed by Committee Members:

<u>James S. Rinow</u>	<u>James G. Sloan Jr.</u>	<u>Mary Frances Brown</u>
<u>Carl Brown</u>	<u>Kevin L. Leitch</u>	<u>Adrian M. McKee</u>
<u>B.J. Kelley Jr.</u>	<u>George Butch</u>	<u>James A. Single</u>
<u>Harry Towne</u>	<u>Audrey Mael</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>William D. Jordan</u>	<u>Kerry Linn</u>	<u>Francis Q. Johnson</u>
<u>Elizabeth Wenner</u>	<u>Victoria G. Jensen</u>	<u>_____</u>