

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
KIAWAH ISLAND MUNICIPAL CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
February 5, 2008, 2:00 PM
Minutes**

I. Call to Order: Mayor Wert called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. FOIA: Notice of this meeting has been published, and posted, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Kiawah Island.

IV. Roll Call

Present: William G. Wert, Mayor
Council: Alan L. Burnaford, Mayor Pro Tem
Charles R. Lipuma

Also Present:
Tumiko Rucker, Town Administrator
Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk
Dennis Rhoad, Town Attorney
Ken Gunnells, Town Treasurer

Absent: Don McIver
G. Steven Orban

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Town Council Meeting: January 8, 2008

Mr. Burnaford motioned to approve the January 8, 2008 minutes; Mr. Lipuma seconded the motion. Mr. Burnaford made changes to page six; striking “with the intent” and adding “and” and “the”. With those corrections the minutes were approved as submitted.

VI. Citizens Presentation: None

VII. Old Business: None

VIII. New Business:

A. Town of Kiawah Island Budget Calendar

Mrs. Rucker presented the Town of Kiawah Island 2008-2009 Budget Calendar and explained that it is a schedule that helps outline the entire budget process.

Mr. Lipuma motioned to approve the 2008-2009 Town of Kiawah Island Budget Calendar as presented. Mr. Burnaford seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Contribution to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra

Mayor Wert presented a \$50,000.00 contribution to Mr. Leo Fishman Charleston Symphony Orchestra Chairman of the Board. Mayor Wert stated that this agenda item brings joy and music to his heart and that the Charleston Symphony Orchestra is a major contributor to the Town of Kiawah Island, the community of Charleston, and the entire sea islands. Mayor Wert noted that this is an annual contribution to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Fishman stated that every year non-profit performing arts organizations have a difficult time with revenues. He also expressed his gratitude by stating that when large gifts like those from the Town of Kiawah Island are for one year, it really helps the organizations. However, when they are multi-year, as the Town of Kiawah Island has donated, it shows a sincere recognition of the problems the organizations face and a sincere desire to help the Charleston Symphony Orchestra in a very realistic way.

IX. Committee Reports

Town of Kiawah Island Budget Calendar

Mrs. Rucker presented the Town of Kiawah Island 2008-2009 Budget Calendar and explained that it is a schedule that helps outline the entire budget process. The calendar was adopted unanimously.

Environmental Committee (See Attached)

The Town has received 10 GPS collars for, the extended bobcat study, are being tested. The study will begin with trapping on February 11 and is expected to last 2 months. Mr. Lipuma explained that the first annual Bald Eagle survey was conducted by Mr. Eric Rice on January 11, 2008 covering a 21.5 mile range along the Kiawah River. The study yielded two juvenile bald eagles. Piping Plover surveys will be conducted twice a month until March 1; after March 1, surveys will be conducted twice every 10 days until April 15. The Plover numbers are following last year's trend, increasing through December and reaching a plateau in January. This year's survey has shown a substantial increase in plover use on the western end of Kiawah Island. Mr. Lipuma reported the following wildlife calls including a coyote that was hit and killed; a disoriented and sick Grey Fox which was found dead on arrival; and 5 reported sightings of raccoons with apparent

distemper 4 of which were caught and euthanized and the 5th had been hit by a car, but did not have distemper.

Arts Council

Mr. Lipuma stated that the Arts Council had hosted four truly outstanding events in 2008. Mr. Lipuma went on to announce the upcoming performance of the Charleston Ballet Theatre on Sunday, February 10 and the Spanish and Italian Lovesongs event on Sunday, February 24. Mr. Lipuma also stated that he had received a phone call from the Charleston County Public Library asking for a donation that will help them in hosting a live, simulcast performance coming out of the New York Met. Mr. Lipuma explained that Charleston is one of the few locations in the country where they are permitting this simulcast. Mr. Lipuma stated that he directed the Charleston County Library to write a letter to Mayor Wert with their request.

Sea Island Issues

Mr. Burnaford stated that he and Mr. Roger Warren, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, attended a County Council meeting to discuss access for the future PGA event. The PGA is projected to contribute \$75 Million to the local economy. Most host sites of the PGA are usually followed with a U.S. Open. Mr. Burnaford reported that during this meeting, Mr. Warren informed County Council that the Resort employees 1600 workers; 250 of which are on work-visas. Mr. Warren explained that the Resort advertises those 250 jobs locally, but is unable to fill them. Mr. Burnaford stated that this highlighted Kiawah's contribution to the County's workforce to the County Council's attention.

XII. Town Administrator's Report

Mrs. Rucker also stated that the Disaster Task Force, comprised of members from KICA, the Resort, and Island Developers, met on January 22 to discuss its progress and remaining obstacles. The group is planning on having another round table discussion in order to address those obstacles with the decision makers of those entities. The annual Hurricane Awareness Day will be held on June 5th at the Sandcastle. Mrs. Rucker went on to say that A-Services Group, LLC which was awarded the Beach Patrol Contract last month, assumed their responsibilities on February 1st. Mrs. Rucker reported that she attended the South Carolina City and County Managers meeting where the main focus was on the go-green initiatives throughout the state. Mrs. Rucker stated that she was thankful to report that the Town of Kiawah Island had already established a "go-green" policy and are continuing to further the initiative. Mrs. Rucker reminded attendees that the Town is currently in the middle of the business license season and any person conducting business on-island is required to obtain a business license by February 28, 2008. Mrs. Rucker stated that the Association of Public Treasurers' has decided to hold there semiannual board meeting in Charleston moving Charleston up on their list for a host site of the 2010 national conference.

XIII. Mayor's Report

Mayor Wert explained that distemper is nature's way of controlling the animal population and while it may be ugly, it is something that happens naturally. Mayor Wert warned people to stay away from any animal that had symptoms of distemper. Mayor Wert also explained that as of now, the Town has not given up on possible mitigation sites needed for the Parkway and Bikepath construction. He stated that on Thursday, February 7, 2008 KICA is having a meet the candidates' night at East Beach Conference Center. Mayor Wert wished the Chinese residents of Kiawah Island a Happy New Year on the 7th of February.

XIV. Citizens' Comments/Questions

Diane Lehder, 306 Palm Warbler- Asked about the status of beach parking on the Ocean Course.

XV. Council Members Comments

Mr. Burnaford had no comment.

Mr. Lipuma had no comment.

XVI. Adjournment:

Mr. Lipuma moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 2:26 PM; motion seconded by Mr. Burnaford. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by _____
Catherine Wilson, Town Clerk

APPROVED: _____
William G. Wert, Mayor

DATE: _____

CC: Mayor Wert
Dennis Rhoad, Esq.
Tumiko Rucker, Town Admin
Town Council Members
Town Treasurer
Planning Commission