



**SURFSIDE BEACH PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
FIRE STATION CONFERENCE ROOM
FEBRUARY 3, 2015 ♦ 6:00 P.M.**

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1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Pruitt called the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commission members present: Chairman Pruitt, and members Abrams, Crone, Elliott, Johnson, and Lowery. Member Lauer was absent. A quorum was present. Others present: Town Clerk Herrmann and Director Morris.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Chairman Pruitt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **AGENDA APPROVAL.** Ms. Abrams moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to add officer election. Ms. Johnson seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OFFICER ELECTION. Chairman: Ms. Johnson moved to elect Mr. Pruitt to serve another term as chairman. Ms. Abrams seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.** Vice Chairman: Ms. Crone nominated Ms. Abrams to serve as vice chairman. Ms. Lowery seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MINUTES APPROVAL.** Ms. Abrams moved to approve both the October 7, 2014 and November 4, 2014 meeting minutes as submitted. Ms. Elliott seconded. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT.** Ms. Morris said no subdivision plats were approved last month. The yard sale ordinance was presented to Town Council. It failed, because some councilmembers felt like it was "the hand of big government." Staff was directed to make changes suggested by councilmembers and present it again. Council wants explicit details about how the ordinance would be enforced, and that it should regulate yard sales that are deemed "commercial." A discussion ensued about the difference between regular and commercial yard sales, and how the process could be regulated. Commission members agreed that some type registration at town hall would be necessary to track yard sales. Without some type registration the code would not be enforceable. The onus had to fall on the individual having the yard sale to register with staff, and the list shared with the police department. However, Town Council did not want a registration requirement. Ms. Morris said several citizens called exclaiming they were surprised the ordinance was not adopted. Several members suggested those individuals contact councilmembers and attend the next meeting. Ms. Morris said that the town received national recognition for the Community Rating System (CRS) Program for Public Information (PPI), which was published on the FEMA CRS website. The State CRS Coordinator called yesterday and told her that she attended a week-long workshop in New Orleans during which the participants trained on the town's PPI. The PPI was the best of any town's with populations of 100,000 or less. The CRS committee is "really, really a solid committee." Ms. Morris said that FEMA will visit the town sometime this month; some information was required to be submitted before the visit and she was preparing that. Ms. Morris said that Town Council requested a review of fines for tree removal. The town has too many instances of trees being cut without permits, and the \$200 fine was not prohibitive. She asked if the members would like to revisit the landscape ordinance, as there may be other codes that also need to be addressed. The Commission agreed that fines should be higher and to review the landscape ordinance.

6. **DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

A. **Goals/Objectives for 2015.** After extended discussion, the Commission concurred to review:

- Landscape ordinance, including a requirement to plant substitute tree regardless of whether a fine or a summons were imposed
- Signs on vehicles, i.e. advertising on stationary trucks, definitions, i.e. box trucks; allowable parking locations, length of time allowed to park

- Overlay ordinance; the town is in competition with other areas on the Grand Strand for businesses and visitors. One of the easiest things to do is make the town look nicer than the other areas, which can be accomplished through a good overlay ordinance.
- Parking requirements for commercial and residential properties. Promoting pedestrian activity by providing public parking in business areas. Identify "hot spots" to reserve land.
- Consider marketing mixed-use development along Surfside Drive
- Pedestrian Traffic Safety: Sidewalk construction on Cedar Drive, especially between Surfside Drive and 5th Avenue North, on 5th Avenue North, and on Hollywood Drive on both sides. Ms. Morris said 5th Avenue North sidewalks are being planned for this year. Many areas are now using multi-use paths instead of sidewalks.
- In relation to CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) create new signage at all entry points along the beach. The suggestion was made to use clamshell shapes with one comment in large print on each shell that would be read as the visitors go along the boardwalk or path towards the beach; also using more graphics and fewer words.
- "Respect the Beach" or similar messages on recycle and trash cans relay the intent of keeping the beach clean without saying "no."
- Better communication with town citizens; educate citizens so that they can help inform visitors. Perhaps utilize the email subscription list to education citizens. Brochures for the welcome center at town hall could be sent to the subscription list on a rotating basis.
- The commission's ultimate goal is for the Town to put its best foot forward; to be the best it can be.

B. Any other matters of concern or information to be discussed by Planning Commission. There were no other matters to be discussed by the commission.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS - General. There were no public comments.

11. COMMISSION COMMENTS. Ms. Lowery felt this was a very productive session. There were no other commission comments.

12. ADJOURNMENT. Ms. Lowery moved to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. There were several seconds. All voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Prepared and submitted by,

Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk

Approved: March 3, 2015

Mikey Pruitt, Chairman

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