## Daufuskie Island Council Agenda

Tuesday, January 18, 5:00 pm

DI Fire Station

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Kathy Aurichio

Robert Ross

Roger Pinckney

Leanne Coulter

#### **General Announcements:**

Captain Richard thanks all who have their embarkation parking fees paid. About fifteen people still need to pay by the end of the month so everyone has a current parking decal. Please remember to keep a balance in your Palmetto Breeze account. Call Captain Richard with questions.

Chair Coulter received an e-mail about the danger of people speeding. Everyone is reminded to watch their speed as the situation can be dangerous for those in golf carts. It is an act of courtesy when in a truck or car to give golf carts the right of way.

A few suggestions were made including the possibility of getting a temporary electronic radar device or posting speed limit signs. It was noted that the speed limit is 35mph.

Chair Coulter stated that this would be her last year as chair. She stated that she is proud of what the Council has accomplished. She stated that the Council worked as a team, and she and John Schartner co-chaired the Council for several years before she took on the Chair role this past year. She worked hard to accomplish tasks, was challenged by learning a new skill, and appreciated feedback on ways she could improve.

She was also reminded in November by Erin Quinn that committees hadn't met in the last year. Chair Coulter stated that Erin Quinn was correct and that this can be addressed in the coming year. The newly elected Council will meet, elect new officers, review key elements of the by-laws, form committees, and look at ways the Council can best serve the community. Members of the community are encouraged to join committees once they are announced.

### **Committee Reports:**

Parks: John Schartner: There are no new updates at this time.

### Access, Easements and Roads Committee: Roger Pinckney

Mr. Pinckney stated that in the interest of moving on to the candidate forum, although there are some developments, he will post these online.

One community member asked Mr. Pinckney about the condemnation of the roads and how he felt about that. Mr. Pinckney stated that in two previous votes, the Daufuskie Island Council voted to keep Prospect Road open and left the decision of how that would happen in the hands of Beaufort County.

**Ferry: Leanne Coulter:** The ferry contract is in place. Although there are ongoing talks about the embarkation sites, there are no updates at this time.

**Kathy Aurichio** reported that free covid antigen tests are available by signing up on <a href="www.covidtest.gov">www.covidtest.gov</a> This will be posted online.

The Election Committee members then made their presentations. Sara Deitch stated that ballots for the upcoming Daufuskie Island Council will be located in the following places along with ballot boxes: Mary Field School, Freeport General Store, Melrose Mailroom, Bloody Point Mailroom, Haig Point Mansion, and D'Fuskie's Store.

In-person voting will take place on Saturday, February 12, 2022 from 9:00-4:00 at the FUABC Youth Ministry Building. Mail-in ballots must be received by February 12, 2022 at 4:00, e-mailed ballots must be received by noon on February 11<sup>th</sup>, and drop- box ballots must be placed in boxes by noon on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

All voters must provide proof of eligibility which includes one of the following: local voter registration card, SC driver's license, current property tax bill and photo ID, or Palmetto Breeze ID card.

Complete election guidelines can be found online at Daufuskiecouncil.com

The Candidate Forum was moderated by Jan Crosby. She thanked the new candidates, Cathie Moore and Beth McIntyre, along with returning candidates John Schartner, Robert Ross, and Roger Pinckney, for running. Jan stated that each candidate would have two minutes to introduce themselves and why they want to serve on the Council. After that, Jan Crosby stated that there would be questions asked of each candidate during the formal portion of the forum.

Robert Ross stated that he grew-up in a small community similar to Daufuskie. He "came from the bottom up" and stated that he has a degree in engineering, math, and management. He favors open forums and keeping open communication. Mr. Ross wants to re-do the website.

Although Cathie Moore could not be present, her statement was read by Jodee Brunning. Cathie has worked in several jobs and currently works in her own painting business, as a Director of Guest Services for Daufuskie Rental Group, and as a part-time employee at Haig Point. She feels she has developed a demonstrated ability to work with people of different backgrounds which would make it easy for her to manage a myriad of council situations. She also stated that she "would represent every community on Daufuskie" and "wants to have a voice in all things Daufuskie "and "wants to be a voice for all of my neighbors."

Beth McIntyre moved to Daufuskie in March of 2020 after a three-year house build. She was a chemical company engineer before leaving to raise her three children. She stated that there is a huge sea change in people finding Daufuskie and that we need to manage that change and to maintain the historical integrity of the island.

Jodee Brunning read John Schartner's statement as he could not attend the meeting. He stated that he has been on the Council for eleven years and in that time has worked to stop major change to preserve the island. He wants to listen to everyone. He also stated that less development/less is good.

Roger Pinckney stated that his roots on the island go back over one hundred years. He has lived as a full-time resident on the island for twenty-five years. He stated that he has worked on may issues from keeping beach access open to working on the issue of the county dock rebuild. Mr. Pinckney stated that we need to keep both history of the island and tourism in mind. People need to make a living on the island but still need Daufuskie to remain Daufuskie.

The candidates were each asked the following question by Jan Crosby:

1. For candidates currently serving on the council: What are your most important accomplishments as Council member? Or, for candidates who are not currently Council members: What personal or professional strengths best qualify you for service on the Council?

Robert Ross responded that he has had six years to provide his spirit in support of the island. As he has only been on the Council for six months, he supported the opportunity for others to speak with decorum. He has been working on communications and building networks between Daufuskie Island and various organizations to address disasters quickly.

Mr. Pinckney stated that his most important and most difficult work was getting the fuel tanks removed from Melrose. He also worked with others to stop the sand mine from becoming a reality and has worked to keep public roads open. He also has worked to patch holes on Haig Point Road.

Jodee Brunning read a statement from John Schartner stating that he helped to stop the building of a proposed water park and work force housing for Hilton Head Island on the Webb tract. He also helped Frances Jones Park to gain recognition as a county park. John also stated that he worked with others to build good relationships with county administrators.

Jodee Brunning read Cathie Moore's statement that she is able to work with people of different backgrounds in public, civic, and private sectors.

Beth McIntyre stated that she has been a chemical engineer and as a middle child, is a problem solver. She is data driven and would like to support small businesses on the island. She would also like to hear what the island as a whole has to say on issues.

Jan Crosby then asked all candidates the following question:

# What projects and or issues would you like to see the Council undertake or address in 2022?

Robert Ross stated he would like to continue to work on communications and security and plan an exercise to test the system. He would also like to continue to redo the website possibly adding a bulletin board for people to share ideas. Mr. Ross would like to continue to keep informed by virtually attending Beaufort County meetings and keeping dialogue open. He stated that roads should be fixed and perhaps signs should be posted to remind drivers to slow down.

Mr. Pinckney stated that there are several ongoing projects including keeping Prospect Road open, focusing on keeping the easement through Bloody Point open, deciding how to use the million- dollar grant to build a community building, and using state funds to expand/build another community dock. Mr. Pinckney also stated that he is a writer and also has connections at the government level.

Jodee Brunning read a statement from John Schartner stating that he is against the county taking over Prospect Road and that facts and figures need to be collected to possibly address the issue of public bathrooms at the beach.

Jodee Brunning read a statement by Cathie Moore that said she feels there should be additional ferry service times.

Beth McIntyre stated that the most important issue is managing change as more and more visitors come and managing their expectations to maintain both the historical elements and businesses on the island.

The final question as asked by Jan Crosby is as follows: Many of the long-term rentals on Daufuskie Island have been sold and or turned into visitor rentals. Share your thoughts on housing that supports our service/workforce neighbors.

Robert Ross stated that there should be guidelines for short- term rentals and that we do need housing for our workers. He also stated that each private development has its own rules for housing.

Roger Pinckney stated that it is difficult to build work force housing on Daufuskie Island. He stated that the permitting for building either dormitory housing or building a double-wide area would be difficult. He states that there is not enough housing on Daufuskie Island.

Beth McIntyre stated that she did not know the answer, although she thinks that we do need housing for people who work here.

The other two candidates did not receive this question in time to respond.

Dean Roberson was thanked for televising the meeting.

The informal portion of the meeting, with discussion going back and forth between candidates and individuals from the public, concluded the meeting.