

DAUFUSKIE ISLAND COUNCIL

Community Forum, Tuesday, January 19, 2021, 5:00 PM
Daufuskie Fire Station

Call to Order: Council Vice-Chair John Coulter called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM with a quorum of members present.

Roll Call:

Present: Leanne Coulter, John Schartner, Tonie Meyers, Steve Hill, Kathy Aurichio, Robert Levis, Roger Pinckney

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speakers:

- #1: **Eric Greenway**, Beaufort County Interim Administer

Eric introduced himself and stated he previously worked in Planning and Zoning before this interim position. He stated he was happy to be visiting Daufuskie and understood there were some issues we would like help with.

He began with discussing the ferry issues. He stated there are no options off the table for consideration. The council hasn't decided anything yet. The goal is to not do anything that is not equal to our current level of service. He, personally, will not recommend any options unless our current level of service is upheld. The major issues at Buckingham are the parking issues and the neighbor complaints. He opened up for questions.

Questions: Proposed RFP is asking for at least 35 parking spots. Daufuskie has over 350 residents. 35 parking spots does not come close to meet the needs of the residents. The RFP did not mention quality of facilities.

Answer: RFP's have minimal and basic information; there purpose is just to get word out. Proposals submitted will then be interviewed and needs will be better identified.

Q: Can someone from Daufuskie (a community member) be on the review team.

A: He will look into and thinks it would be beneficial to have one or two members from Daufuskie on that team.

Q: Zoning is an issue at Buckingham. What process would it take to change the zoning?

A: Nothing will need to be rezoned. A public service (such as the ferry) can be part of the existing zoning.

Mr. Greenway encouraged community members to communicate with the county when work is being done on Daufuskie. For example: 30-foot buffers and setbacks are expected but the county needs to know in time to mitigate if this isn't being done.

Mr. Greenway gave his contact information:

Contact Info: egreenway@bcgov.net; 843-441-6129

– **#2 guest speaker: Dr. Carole Rizzo-Baum**

Dr. Rizzo-Baum stated that immunization logistics are quite complicated. Shots are currently being given to those who meet requirements of Phase 1. It is important that residents register to receive vaccine. A preregistration form is available to fill out and given to Leanne. As far as she knows she believes that it will be late February when a vaccine clinic will be held on the island. It has been confusing to register for shots in Bluffton and Hilton Head. Dr. Rizzo stated residents should be aware that the one-time vaccination shot is not here. It is either 3 or 6 weeks between shots. You do not get to choose which vaccine you receive.

She reminded us that it is important to know how to protect yourself and others during this transition – even after you get your vaccine. For 2-4 weeks after your second vaccination, you must follow same guidelines we are following now.

If you receive the vaccine outside of Daufuskie you need to let Carole know so she can take you off the list to receive.

Carole spoke about the variants of the virus and stated that the information, for now, is confusing.

She spoke regarding side effects being reported of the vaccine. Most reactions reported only occur after the second dose that may include pain at the injection site, fever and/or aches and pains and can last 24-48 hours. She informed residents that they should not take medications prior to the immunization as an attempt to try and minimize any reactions.

If you know people who don't have a mailbox – please reach out to them to help them get registered.

2021 DIC Election Candidate Forum

Steve reported there is one seat open on the council. 3 candidates have come forward. Leanne Coulter, Robert Ross, Cathie Moore. All three meet the qualifications. Each candidate then spoke of their qualifications and stated reasons why they are interested in serving the Daufuskie community in this capacity.

Questions of candidates: None

Steve reported on the election procedures: Sat 13th will be in person balloting, 9-4, held at the new youth ministry building. Early balloting can take place in one of the following three ways: Ballots may be sent by email. All ballots must include the ballot as well as voting eligibility documents that are described on the ballot. The Email address is on the ballot. You can also mail in ballots with documentation (address on ballot). The third method will be to utilize drop boxes at: Maryfield school, Melrose and Bloody Point mailrooms, Haig Point mansion and one at Freeport. Ballots are available online on the council website. Please participate.

General Announcements:

- Update on bulletin board that will be posted at Maryfield School in the mail area. The bulletin board was ordered before the holidays but unfortunately was shipped by Fed-X and returned. Leanne will reorder.

- Island Mail contract: For the past 5 years Haig Point has the mail delivery contract with Maria delivering the mail. The contract was renewed. Five years ago there were 244 mailboxes – now 650 boxes. A question was raised regarding if Maria would receive extra help due to the increase. There is a job posting for anyone interested.
- Beach Marker Project: Our Fire Department is advocating that there be markers for public safety. There needs to be a system in place to help with a 911 response. Beach markers will help with Intra-agency cooperation and coordinated search patterns. Our Fire Department is asking Council to take to county commission. Mr. Greenway said he would help with this effort and there may be funding available.

Council Committee Reports

- Ferry: Was discussed earlier in meeting.
- Roads & Environment: On going road issue is the breakup of Haig Point road. Mr. Greenway stated it is on his radar. The island needs a plan for the infrastructure upkeep on the island. Mr. Greenway reported that the County is developing a system for inspections of roads.
- The fire area on Church Road is not entirely cleared. It has been two years or more. It looks better, but more needs to be done.
- Melrose Tanks: While the tanks were drained, they have now risen up about a foot and remain an environmental hazard.
- Community Park: Money has been obtained for playground equipment. We hit a roadblock with the county needing permits, site plans and tree removal. It may be that the county will take over the responsibility of tree removal and permits and Mr. Greenway stated he will take care of the site plan amendment.

Special Projects:

- 90% of island has broadband. Hopefully, before too long we will have 100%.

Public Forum: None

Adjourned at 6:23.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 5:00 PM