Daufuskie Island Council Monthly Meeting September 25, 2018 Mary Fields School Minutes

The Daufuskie Island Council monthly meeting was called to order at 6:50.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Leticia Velasquez

Absent-Sallie Ann Robinson, Leanne Coulter

Roll Call

Present-Chris Sutcliffe, Erin Quinn, Deborah Smith, John Schartner, James Bays

A majority of the Council being present, there was a duly constituted quorum.

Introduction of Special Guests: Representative Jeff Bradley

Presentation of Spirit of Daufuskie Award to Laura Winholt and Karen Opderbeck

Deborah Smith stated that this award is given to those volunteers who make the most significant changes on behalf of the Daufuskie community. Some of these changes take years. Laura Winholt was the President of The Daufuskie Island Conservancy for years. Karen Opderbeck worked closely with Laura over a number of years to create the One Island Solution and lay the groundwork for creation of the recently launched Convenience Center. As a result, the Frances Jones Community Park can now be significantly enhanced including a ballfield and new trails.

Karen Opderbeck's other efforts included developing and for years operating the Haig Point recycling program which has resulted in many tons of products being used for recycling purposes instead of ending up in landfills.

Laura Winholt started the most innovative feral cat program in the country. There was a bad situation on the island when she first arrived with many sick and starving feral cats on the island. Laura started the trap, neuter, and release program and along with her husband, Jeff, established a cat sanctuary for the island's "community cats." As a result of her efforts and of many other volunteers, there are rarely any stray cats to be found on Daufuskie.

General Announcements

1) Community Happenings

Deborah Smith stated that there would be another marathon held like last year's marathon organized by Dan Hernandez. This marathon will be a qualifier and will include a half, full, and ultra. It will be held in January. The recipient for the money will be the DI Historical Foundation and the Marsh Tacky Society . Registration is still open and volunteers are needed.

2) Adoption of County Council Process

Deborah Smith stated that the meetings will be run in an orderly way with respect. The process will mimic the County Council process. There will be two public forums. The first public forum will be at the beginning of the meeting and individuals who want to speak will sign up and will keep their comments to under three minutes. There will be a second opportunity at the end of the meeting to sign up and speak. This will minimize the back and forth and will ensure everyone will speak in a respectful way.

Public Forum

No one asked to speak.

Committee Updates

DI Plan and Code Committee

Deborah Smith stated that the proposed plan has been nominated for a national award. Daufuskie property owners Beverly Davis and Sonny Timmerman volunteered their professional services to assist with this process.

Ferry Committee

Chris Sutcliffe stated that the ferry did a good job of planning and running for Hurricane Florence. If there are any lessons to be learned, please contact Chris.

Resource and Development Committee

James Bay stated that \$46.64 was raised by the drop boxes for park amenities. A committee meeting is planned for early October to discuss fundraising options.

Roads Committee

John Schartner stated that the utility vehicles are better than trucks or cars for the roads.

Cultural and Historic Committee

It was stated that Representative Bradley helped get the \$20,000 grant for park equipment. He also procured the flag that flew over the state capital for Daufuskie Island. Erin Quinn stated that they are still deciding on the best playground equipment to purchase keeping in mind that the equipment will need to be barged over. There will be a dedication of the pavilion to Chris and Dave Hutton at some time in the future.

Old Business

Deborah Smith stated that the road condition was a problem when the road is not crowned. David Wilhelm will work with Greg Hutton on this.

New Business

Deborah Smith stated that the council would like to organize another candidates' forum, and more details will follow when a date has been set.

Representative Bradley emphasized the importance of voting.

Deborah Smith stated that Karen Opderbeck is Daufuskie's elections clerk, and that Daufuskie needs to speak with a loud voice by strong participation at the ballot box.

Chris Sutcliff mentioned that she had copies of a booklet 'What My Family Should Know' that has many questions to complete to pass on to family members in case of an emergency or death. A electronic version will be scanned and made available on the DI council website.

Public Forum

Freddie questioned a rumor circulating about the new dump. He had heard that the dump would charge for disposing of yard debris. He stated that the debris would be left along the road if there was a charge for dumping.

Karen Opderbeck asked people to register to vote. She would help with this process, if needed. She will put up flyers.

Dennis Mobley asked about the ferry system. He was told that the Buckingham ferry property was bought by the county. He asked why the residents are charge \$50.00 a month for parking if the county owns the property.

Julie Pennebaker asked why there are two tiers of cost for parking...some \$50.00 and some \$100.00 a month. It was stated that islanders need a designated parking spot.

Bryan Cobb stated that the residents pay to park and should have designated space.

It was asked why day trippers are not charged, and Chris Sutcliffe answered that she was told that the parking is included in their ticket.

James Bays questioned the fact that teachers could not use the Haig Point ferry to get to school. One person was not told until she started her job that she would not be able to take the ferry to get to school. Chris Sutcliffe stated that the problem is with the county contract. She stated that she was looking into a recommendation to the county. She also stated that there might be a possibility of running a small six passenger boat early in the morning on the county run. The riders would need to reserve a spot. There would also need to be a certified boat captain on the island to make this run.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the chair at 7:28 pm.