

August 15, 2023

5:30 PM

DIFD, 400 Haig Point Road

Call to order -

Pledge - No flag

Roll Call – Leanne Coulter, Beth McIntyre, Taylor Moran, Kim Parker, John Schartner, Erica Veit, Kade Yarborough,
(Began without Erica Viet and Kim Parker Delayed due to weather.)

Review and Approval of July meeting minutes - approved

Remarks from the Chair –

Council Vacancies

K. Yarborough - Per the Bylaws the vacancies are filled from the pool of alternate vote getters from the previous election. These seats do not have to be filled but all three previous voted getters were approached to possibly fill the vacancies left by Cathie Moore and Roger Pinckney. See below for the vote which took place.

(Note that the Bylaws do not allow for a vote by the Council on the next highest vote getters to fill vacancies.)

Council Vacancy Vote - August 14, 2023
Vote to fill Cathie Moore's seat with Erica Veit.
Erica Veit unanimously approved in a 5-0 vote.

Kade called for a vote:

Leanne – yes
Beth – yes
John – yes
Taylor – yes

Vote to fill Roger Pinckney's seat with Kathy Aurichio
Kathy Aurichio was not approved

Leanne – yes
Beth – yes
John – No
Taylor – No
Kade – No

Vote to fill Roger Pinckney's with with Kim Parker
Kim Parker was voted 4-1 and approved for Council.

Leanne – yes
Beth – yes
John – Yes
Taylor – Yes

Kade – No

In the agenda meeting that was held right after the previous meeting, John Schartner was elected as Council Chair.

J. Schartner – Welcome to the new members and thanking the old members for their work. We are changing the format from the current council format where everyone has a chance to speak, but there will no longer be any back and forth between the council and the audience.

Public Discussion #1 -

Susan Jones – Concerned about the project for rocking the roads. The only contact we had with the County was for them to offer us \$10 for our property. Why weren't we notified of the road situation? This is unacceptable.

Parks committee – There is a significant wasp issue at the bathrooms at the park. We really need the County to take the lead and address this issue. A call was made to Eric Claussen about the wasp problem.

Martha Hutton– Shipping container staff will not be in support of any text amendment for the containers. We have a specific Daufuskie Island Code for golf carts driving at night and we should be able to have specific codes for shipping containers. The precedent has been set. We will need to go directly to the BC Council to seek a remedy.

John Schartner – We need try to get some of the ATAX money back over to the island to fund some of our projects.

Changes in Committee Assignments Committees and Members

Parks - Taylor Moran
Erica Veit

Ferry – Beth McIntyre – Chair
Leanne Coulter

Roads - John Schartner, Leanne Coulter

Codes - Leanne Coulter and John Schartner

The minutes from the last Codes Committee meeting will be posted. Our goal is to try to make sure our Code is consistent with the County Code . We would like to add the add a glossary already in place by BC.

Tourism and Beach – Taylor Moran and Erica Veit will try to get some of the room tax (ATAX) collected off of tourism back to the island for our projects. Erica has experience with getting grant money and she will spearhead this issue.

Communication - Kade Yarborough is still working on the new website for the Council with a timeframe of the end of 2023 for it to be operational. Kade needs to establish a budget for the website and has reached out to Matt Marzaille who has accepted the invite to join the Communication committee. Matt will supply the estimated cost for the him to do the monthly

update and for building of the site. The Council will be charged a monthly amount to maintain and update the site. The next meeting will be September.

Secure emails -

Establishing security for all council emails is important. To date there have been no issues but as we move forward this should be addressed with new email addresses.

Other changes -

Investigating the possibility of a livestream where people can watch online. The goal is for the community to be able to read the minutes and watch the online video. This is a situation where some of the ATAX money could be used.

Election Process & By-Laws – A meeting was held to review the current By Laws and the Election procedures for the Council. A brief discussion was had (no votes were taken) to discuss the following: Should Palmetto Breeze passes be used to qualify for voting? What constitutes a voter and should residents and should non-residents be voting in local elections? Shoe boxes that are currently used for collecting votes need to be replaced with more secure receptacles.

The Council is charged with putting together a group to facilitate the elections. One member of the Council (Taylor) will be the liaison and members of the community and will administer the vote. Voting will take place in one of several places.

Special Projects – Erica Veit will be charge of the container issue. All notes, contact information and past work have been passed to her. Please contact her for information.

Roberts Rules of Order – RRO will be established so as to minimize the back and forth between the Council and the community as much as possible. Taylor is familiar with the rules and will be assisting the Council with the rules. The debates we have been having should be taking place in the committee meetings. This will allow more ideas to be put together and then presented to the full Council

All Committee Chairpersons should supply Kade with the meetings for the next 5 months so that the community will know when the next committee meeting is scheduled.

We are requesting more transparency in Committee agendas and reports. We want you to be interested enough to come to the meetings. – per John Schartner

Anti-Snitching Resolution

It is alleged by some Council members and members of the community that Council members have reported Code Violations around the island. This is a big problem per John Schartner. John and Kade want to put forth a resolution to have DIC members sign a pledge to not report (snitch/rat language per John Schartner) on members of the community when Code violations were noted. Beth McIntyre questioned the validity of this assumption and also wanted clarification from the community as to the actual accusations. She also stated that this was not Kindergarten and we have Council members who will not sign the Ethic's Pledge due to their conscience so how can you enforce this? The resolution was not put forth.

Public Comment #2

Park Irrigation –

Is there irrigation at the park?

Water lines have been run but we are unsure of the full extent of water hookups.

Rocking the Roads –

Much discussion was had regarding the upcoming rocking of the roads. Please see a follow up post about the questions submitted and the answers by the county.

Discrepancies between the DI Code and BC Code –

Anyone who has one of those discrepancies should be brought to the Code Committee so that it can be reviewed and addressed.

Roads –

Pam Cobb – is there any chance of the potholes in front of the fire station being filled? They are awful.

Beth McIntyre - They are talking about a cement pad in front of the fire station to accommodate the large heavy vehicles.

Discussion about voting and representation -

In most places a registered voter has to live in the precinct in which they vote. This is a much larger community discussion and should be addressed with the community. This is a bylaw change and requires a super majority to pass. Community members

John Schartner – I would like to have a survey on ND. Anyone on ND has been vetted. The STR response was outstanding and I believe this is the best forum for doing a survey. Erin Quinn asked that the survey be done by Survey Monkey.

Pam Cobb – I have monitored the vote several times and there has never been a problem with a ballot box being stuffed. Any ballots not cast according to the requirements are immediately thrown into the trash .

Beth McIntyre – I spoke with Pat Allison to see if the DICF could host the candidate forum. Erin Quinn hosted it last year and it was held at the coffee shop and it went really well. Pat said unfortunately, the DICF is not able to do it because their status as a 501-3C would be in jeopardy.

Container issue –

Erica Veit – Anyone with any ideas, please forward them to me and we will see where can go.

Beth McIntyre – There are a couple of ways we can go about doing this. The one I would recommend is the Code amendment, similar to STRs. Martha is right when she says that the staff will not support it. This doesn't mean we shouldn't do it. It just means there will be a fight There are 40 visible containers on island and this means there are probably another 20 that aren't. There are a lot of containers on island and now to force people to remove them will cause a great deal of hardship. The other way to do it is a variance through Zoning. This is a problem because each individual would have to admit to an illegal structure on their property and I don't think this is the best way to go about this. York Glover represents St Helena and they have lots of containers over on that island. I think that he would be a great ally for us.

Deb Smith - We should go straight to County Council. Daufuskie Island is the only place in the state with its own golf cart regulations. For staff to say they can't do this is outrageous. Certainly those individuals who have them should be grandfathered in. No Code

Amendment. This is outrageous and surely the people with these containers should get some relief.

Codes Violations (Anti-snitching -Reporting Resolution) -

John Schartner - This was never an issue until about 4-5 months ago. People have had containers here for years. My neighbor had a tent in his yard. The HD is an eclectic group and there is no POA. I am unsure how to handle this. I hope no one on the Council is going to County to report these violations. I would like to have the DIC sign a statement to not report code violations. We are an advisory group and we are not here to turn people in. I can't comprehend and hope that no one on the DIC is doing this. I would like to put forth a resolution to not turn someone in unless it is a flagrant violation then we would have to report them. I would like to get some suggestions as to how to put this together. What we are going to do as a council is to put our heads together and one of the committees will put together a resolution.

Pam Cobb - My neighbor had a tent in his yard. He would sleep in his tent overnight and leave on Sunday. I cannot comprehend why someone would go around and report violations. I also know someone on Turtles Pace who stay in their camper when they are here. Who are we to say that they shouldn't use a camper as a place to stay? I don't see any problem with that. I personally don't have an issue with that. You are an advisory board. It just doesn't sit well with your constituents.

Kade Yarborough - I think it should be in the bylaws. I think we can vote on it right now. People come to us with personal information all the time. I think it would be not right for us to snitch to the County.

Beth McIntyre - You want to right up a paper to stop the Council from reporting any Codes violations? How can you mandate behavior? You can't even get us to sign a document to mandate behavior like the Code of Ethics. I think we can agree that we should approach our neighbors. But now you want to have people sign some anti-snitching pledge? Are you saying that we are taking information that the public has given us and we are in turn taking that information and reporting them? Who said that? Now we would only report flagrant violations? Who determines what is flagrant? The Council? This is unbelievable. You want us to sign some kindergarten document that we won't rat on our neighbors. This is bizarre.

Taylor Moran- I have been told that someone on the Council has been reporting containers and other violations. Not a resident.

Beth McIntyre - How do you know this is us? It's a rumor. So what's flagrant?

Taylor Moran- Like a container on the roadside.

Beth McIntyre- Don't we have those already? I don't know, I am just asking.

John Schartner - I hope no one on this Council is squealing to the county Codes. We are not here to turn people in. I can't comprehend this. I would like a resolution to not turn anyone unless it is a flagrant violation. What committee? Codes, Bylaws? Any suggestions. I think it should go to the bylaws committee. I have spoken with Codes and he stated that someone on the Council is reporting these things. He said he has to investigate everything and some are and some are not violations.

Kade Yarborough - People come to us all the time with personal information and I don't think it's right for us to take that information to the county.

Patrick Ford –If someone has a problem with containers and there are some that do, they should just admit to it and then a conversation can be had. Up until this point no one has done this. Phone calls were made. That’s why this is being talked about. If I did something wrong and they said did you do this? I would say yea. There should be conversations instead of phone calls. I am just saying this is probably not the place for this. Beaufort County actually said that there were phone calls made. When one person does it detracts from the whole Council. There is clear cutting on School Road and the County said that you need to police yourselves. So they put the onus on the people over here to police ourselves.

Deb Smith – If someone on the Council is doing this or there is a perception that they are, it’s a problem. It erodes the credibility of the Council with the community. The Council is not in the business of reporting people. You are an advisory committee not the police. Put it on the record. And there needs to be a standing resolution to not tell on your neighbor. Pass a position either in the bylaws or a free standing position that the council is not in the business of enforcement. I am saying what John is saying. Before there is a report to the County of a suspected violation a majority or super majority of the Council needs to agree.

Debbie Roberson - This seems to be a BC Zoning Issue. If there is a complaint they should go directly to the County. If a resident has a complaint, it should go directly to the County and not to the Council.

John Schartner - There is a restaurant owner who pulls up to the county dock and serves food maybe doesn’t have a sanitation permit or a business license. There are local businesses who pay their taxes and get all their permits, property taxes, septic permits, commercial wells all kinds of stuff. I know because I am trying to get a restaurant up and running. Then we have someone selling food and leaving. I understand he needs to have a business but I am not going to turn him in.

Surveys

Erin Quinn – From the Communication group maybe you should talk with Matt Marzaile about some different surveys. My concern with using ND is there is a lot of people on ND who visited 7 or 8 years ago and maybe haven’t been back since. Maybe they can fill out their address and then the answers can still be anonymous. At least you are confirming information that these are members of the community. That might be more useful for you. At least you will have the information that they are members of the community and it can also create a data base for future mailings.

Vote to fill Council positions -

Debbie Roberson –

1. Did the DI Council offer Kathy Aurichio the professional courtesy of discussion her letter with her OR ask if she would be interested in serving if her requests were not met?

John Schartner – anything else?

2. Once you saw that the Bylaws did not address Kathy’s particular situation, did you call an attorney before offering the seat to Kim?
3. Do you plan to follow the Freedom of Information Act?

Debbie Roberson – So are you not going to answer my questions?

4. Does the DIC have liability insurance? (Error and Omissions)

John Schartner– During the meeting we voted and those meetings were not supposed to be posted.

Beth McIntyre – Oh no. I disagree with that. A vote was taken. And the Community needs to be aware that a vote was taken. A vote was taken and the community needs to know that a vote was taken by this organization. And also my notes are on a social media.

John Schartner– An executive session is closed to the public.

Beth McIntyre- You are not supposed to post minutes and, Kade is not supposed to post minutes and Taylor is not supposed to post minutes and yet you all have done that. Why am I being penalized for posting? Why would you not want the community to know?

John Schartner – Robert’s Rules of Order.

Beth McIntyre – At that point there was no Robert’s Rules of Order. A vote was taken and the community needs to know. A vote was taken. Why would you not want the community to know?

Pam Cobb – Anyone who wants to be on the Council has no ability to demand concessions. No one else has wanted concessions. Taylor didn’t ask for concessions...

Beth McIntyre – Agreed. The other issue is the vote is illegal because there is no allowance in the Bylaws for voting to admit someone to the Council by the Council. The Bylaws do not account for that.

Debbie Roberson – Was Kathy offered the professional courtesy to talk about this or ask if she could talk about this? I am just asking if she was offered that.

Beth McIntyre – No she was not.

John Schartner - Her opening statement is we “must” adhere to this. Her opening statement was demands. She was offered the position on the Council just like Erica was. Kade jumped the gun and asked if Erica could come onto the Council in order to fill the positions. Kade made a mistake. So what we did, we said to Erica do you want to be on the Council?

What we did we righted Kade’s decision. We asked Erica, Kathy sent her demands and they were unacceptable. They would need Bylaw changes. No one has ever or will ever require changes to get on the Council. All she had to do was say yes or no. She attached herself to her recommendations and her recommendations were voted down ‘no’. In that vote we called the vote and I said I did not mind Kathy I would like to see Kathy back. She attached herself to her recommendations.

Debbie Roberson – I asked if she were extended the professional courtesy...

John Schartner – Don’t interrupt me! Kathy was turned down simply because she attached herself to her demands. The next available candidate with the next highest votes was Kim. Kim readily accepted. Case closed. If you want to sue us, go right ahead.

Debbie Roberson – I am asking you...

John Schartner - Sit down, Sit down, Sit down, Sit down. (To Deb Roberson)

Beth McIntyre - A vote was taken by the Council and the community needs to be aware that a vote taken. The community needs to know a vote was taken.

Deb Smith – I will be starting a 501-c 3 to aid with the cat of the island cat population.

John Schartner – I would like to have snacks at the meetings. We need to start a sign up.

Adjourned