

## Daufuskie Island Council Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, July 20, 2021

### Leanne

- calls meeting to order
- Roll call: Robert absent, Tonie absent – all else present
- review of agenda

### Margaret Downing, secretary of the DI farm

- speaks about her role in the Farm
- Word to describe this past year: “change”
- Aim of farm is for education, connect, learn via artisan skills and sustainable farming practices
- Artisan village is developing
- Introduced Brian Darnell, farm manager

### Brian Darnell, farm manager

- Grew up on a farm, worked on a large Angus farm, worked as a chaplain on death row, director of volunteers for department of correctional facilities
- Moved to DI in Dec 2020
- Asked for questions

### Margaret

- Farm Board: Cathie Bos, Howard Bos, Margaret Downing, Artie Willis, Eileen Olsen
- Revenue source: donations and grants, hoping new newsletter will help increase revenue
- Dreams for farm to be educational

### Leanne: update on ferry committee

- Begins August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022
  - o May be extended for 2, 1-year contracts based on council vote?
- Aiming to reduce number of vehicles traveling to the landing dock, will route all visitors to remote visitor lot. Shuttle over to ferry with baggage
- Create a buffer at Buckingham landing
- Working on future development of ferry embarkation center

### John: park committee

- Park equipment inspection – initial report said everything is fine, results not in yet.
- Hand over to Beaufort county parks – county will be responsible for the maintenance of the park
- 20 bags of sand (2.5 tons each) at the landing, meant for underneath the equipment
  - o Already have volunteers to transport to park (Haig Point), looking for volunteers to shovel the sand into the park (need heavy equipment for this task)
- There is new signage for park bathrooms around the island to help guide tourists.
- Community member: park dedicated in May 2018

- Leanne: \$20,000 grant at open of park, volunteers have done a great job working on this project
  - Huge step moving from community volunteer project to the park now being the responsibility of Beaufort county
- Community member: community communicated will with the county through departmental changes to get to where we are, despite some community members wishing the pace of the development was quicker.
- John: over \$48,000 effort to get this park established
- Community member: who is in charge of the paper goods for park bathrooms?
  - Leanne: county is responsible
  - Community member: these goods need to be replenished.

Roger: access, easements, roads

- 3 issues
- Issue 1: many people are visiting DI on smaller boats, parking at the public dock. There is a 3 hour docking limit on all county docks – not all visitors are respecting this limit.
- Many cannot get on the dock because boats are tied up all day/for hours at a time. Idea to dedicate the front dock for loading and unloading shuttle boats only, not private boat docking. This may be a regulation issue.
  - Leanne: parking of cars and trucks near the county dock seems to be permanent. No room for people who bring their boats to park their cars and trailers. Contacted Eric Greenway to bring attention to this issue. Hoping the county will be able to notify owners of vehicle parked at the dock that they must move their cars.
    - Roger: Wick Scurry moved cars like this off his private property, county cannot do this on county land.
- Issue 2: Prospect road, letters from attorney associated with the county were sent to Prospect Road residents notifying them the county is pursuing a legal easement on Prospect Road. More information on this issue will be available at the next meeting.
  - Community member: has access to attorney letters (sent to all property owners on prospect rd), issue has snowballed and needs action.
  - Leanne: unaware of this new information/development
  - Community member: property owners are still expected to pay taxes on the property that will be road.
  - Community member 2: width of the road is based on fire and rescue requirements.
  - Roger: width of Haig Point road is only 50 feet.
  - Community member 3: Haig Point road is not wide enough to warrant painted lines. Odd that a dirt road should need to be wider than a paved road.
- Issue 3: Bloody point access issue – 1989: roads used by islanders across the bloody point track. Bloody Point offered 2 new roads in 1989, beach road and front gate to Daufuskie lane to access bloody point cemetery and Mungen River.

- This access agreement will be honored. Limited parking at site, so a limited number of vehicles will be allowed in at one time – passes available at front gate to either location or both.
  - A group of bicyclers were turned away from the gate, went into Bloody Point without passes anyways. (a rider knew about the policy and that they could not be turned away) Roger says this agreement is now void? Any number of people can go visit the cemetery and river at any time?
  - Community member: river is not very accessible from access point, no clear path. Potentially dangerous
    - Confirmed by another community member and Roger

#### Rob Ross: emergency communication services project

- If power, internet, and phones go out, how will we communicate?
- Fire, marines, police services have licenses to use essential communication services
- Civilians do not have these licenses
- National Incident Management System – used by the military and national guard
- Amateur Radio Emergency Services – an option for civilians.
- There are formal network programs DI can participate in. Amateurs are a part of formal communication systems, not actually amateurs. These people have far-range equipment
- Amateur radio networks have the ability to contact people across the country. This would benefit islanders to be able to communicate with family members to signal if they are okay or not in the event of an emergency/natural disaster.
- Repeaters are tools that have high range, plug into these amateur systems?
- Proposition: create a mock emergency incident and use a generator (emergency power source) and radio equipment to check into the radio network and contact people outside of the island. Afterwards, have a bbq for the community. Talk about emergency communication services to community members, alert them to this issue.
- Leanne: how widespread are hand radios on the island? How can we create a system on the island?

#### Leanne: public bathrooms on the island

- Seeking to get bathrooms at the beach. Speaking to county about this issue. DHEC does not allow composting toilets, would need a special permit from DHEC for this. Our State Representative, Jeff Bradley said he would work on this.
- Several County administrators will come to Daufuskie Island in August to discuss some island issues, toilets will be included.

#### Public forum

- Community member: roads, public works people came to look at the paved section of HP road and some patching was done. When can/will this road be repaved?
  - Leanne: we're always asking for repaving. Topic will be brought up at August meeting with county members, some stimulus money is available for improvements.

- Community member 2: sign pointing to public restrooms down Francis Jones road is often missing. Signs are up on either end of Church Road, but not towards the park.
  - o Leanne: asks John to take care of this issue.
  - o John: permanent signs are in the works
- Community member 3: wants to see signs at the beach that lay out the law regarding pets and animals on the beach
  - o No animals allowed on the beach during turtle season, all dogs/animals must be on leash.
- Kathy: 85% vaccination rate on Daufuskie Island, one of the highest rates in the state! A community effort will be made to provide transportation and services to any community member ready and willing to be vaccinated.