

**Daufuskie Island Council Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**October 16th, 2018**  
**6:00 pm, Mary Fields School**

**Roll Call**

Present- Chris Sutcliffe, Erin Quinn, Deborah Smith, John Schartner, James Bays, Leanne Coulter, Sallie Ann Robinson

All members of the Council being present, there was a duly constituted quorum.

**Pledge of Allegiance-** Led by John Schartner

**General Announcements**

Chairperson Deborah Smith stated that the Daufuskie Island Council is now using the meeting procedures used by the Beaufort County Council. 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 discussions creating overly-long meetings, and will ensure everyone will be heard. After stating their name, individuals can ask to not be named in the minutes.

**1st Public Forum**

No one asked to speak.

**Community Happenings**

The Daufuskie Island Council is sponsoring a candidate forum on October 24th at 4:00 at the Maryfield School. The candidates confirmed include those running for the State House seat representing Daufuskie (State Representative Jeff Bradley, Republican, and Mario Martinez, Democrat) and candidates running for the Beaufort County Council seat representing Daufuskie, i.e., Councilman Tabor Vaux' seat (Mark McGinnis, Democrat and Mark Lawson, Republican). We have had lots of interactions with these candidates already, and they all have an interest in Daufuskie Island. The council is asking for public questions to be forwarded before the forum to the Council's email address: [DaufuskieCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:DaufuskieCouncil@gmail.com).

Deb Smith stated that the deadline to register to vote is October 17th. A website ([www.verify.vote.org](http://www.verify.vote.org)) will you know whether or not you are registered to vote. The election will take place on Tuesday November 6th at the Jane Hamilton School on Old Haig Point Road from 7:00 am-7:00 pm.

Dan Hernandez from "Run 4-A-Reason" made a presentation about the Daufuskie Island Marathon to take place on January 19th, 2019. The race will be on the interior of the island, staying off of the beach. The race is certified and will include 13.1 miles, 26.2 miles, and 39.3 miles. Because this race is certified, it is a qualifier for other races including the Boston Marathon. The race will begin and end at Haig Point and will take place from 8:15 am-4:45 pm. Posters will be posted, and sponsorship packets including mile marker packets are available. Money raised will be donated to the Marsh Tacky and the Daufuskie Island Historic Foundation. The race brochure could include local business information at no cost. This information should be forwarded to Dan Hernandez by the middle of December. December 1st is the deadline for sponsorships. The race will cap the number of runners at 250. Approximately 150 runners are expected, and currently 100 are registered. There are several volunteer opportunities. Dan stated that he would put rental opportunities on the race website if information is forwarded to him. The top runners will be recognized. Dan would like to have palm frond wreaths for the top runners, if there is someone on the island who could make these.

Erin Quinn stated that the Elementary Fall Festival will take place on Saturday, October 27th from 3:00-6:00. There will be a silent auction, a cake walk, and a dinner, all to raise money for the school. The event will take place next to the equestrian center at the Haig Point Helmuth Community Center.

The Beach Sweep will take place on October 20th beginning at 10:00 am. One group will begin at the Beach Road Gazebo at Bloody Point and the other group will begin at Calibogue Beach Club at Haig Point. The two groups will work toward one another. Please remember to bring gloves.

The October 31st Halloween the Trunk or Treat procession will move from place to place. It will begin at the Plantation at Haig Point, then to the entrance of Melrose, then the fire station and then concluding at Lucy Belle's.

The Thanksgiving Community Dinner will take place at Lucy Belle's on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Neighbors bringing side dishes and desserts can pick up pans from Lucy Belle's starting the week before. Watch NextDoor for more details.

The Daufuskie Island Holiday Market will take place on Friday November 23rd, the day after Thanksgiving, from 3:00-6:00 pm. The event will take place at the Maryfield School. There will be food available. All island artisans are invited to set up for this fun event.

The Rum and Strum event will take place on Saturday November 24th, from 11:00 am-10:00 pm.

## **Committee Updates**

### **Ferry Committee**

Chris Sutcliffe, Chair of the Ferry Committee, followed up on a question asked at the previous meeting. The question asked was the following: Why if the county owns the parking lot, do residents have to pay a fee to park? Chris Sutcliffe stated that she asked the question and the answer was that the ferry company rents the property from the county. A follow up question was posed by a member of the public, "But don't we pay the county?" Deborah Smith said that Ferry Committee meetings are open to the public and residents impacted by the ferry services are encouraged to attend and participate in these working session meetings.

### **DI Plan and Code Committee**

Deborah Smith, Chair of the DI Plan and Code Committee, stated that the proposed revision of the Daufuskie Island Plan has received final approval by the County Council. The new Plan, representing more than 18 months of hard work by the Daufuskie Council, pro bono consultants Beverly Davis and Sonny Timmerman, and the community has been nominated for a national award. She again thanked Beverly and Sonny for their assistance in the development of this document. The Daufuskie Island Code revisions are still going through the county process review.

### **Resources Development Committee**

James Bays, Chair of the Resources Development Committee, stated that a park fundraising meeting took place. Many good ideas for fundraising events emerged including Bingo nights to take place at the Maryfield School. Also a spaghetti dinner fundraiser was suggested. There is also consideration of a golf cart car wash as another way to raise money for the playground.

### **Roads Committee**

John Schartner, Chair of the Roads Committee, reported that per a conversation with County Public Works David Wilhelm (more details on this meeting under "Old Business"), he expects enhanced road maintenance of Daufuskie non-paved roads, including the practice of "crowning" when the roads are graded in order to help prevent flooding during heavy rainfalls.

### **Old Business**

Erin Quinn stated that due to some renovations at a university, a DI neighbor has been able to secure a donation of numerous pieces: three sets of bleachers, tennis nets, fiberglass benches, a bike rack, and trash cans to Daufuskie Island for the Francis Jones Community Park. This equipment could be transported via the county boat. The plan is to make a ball field where the dumpsters once were. Greg Hutton will clean the area and the county will do a soil test for contaminants. Remediations will be made if necessary. The land will be graded and a ball field will be created. The roads into the park will also be graded. Dead trees will need to be removed. There are two bids in to have the trees removed. One more bid needs to be made before the project can

continue. Volunteers will be needed for various fundraising events, ground preparation and playground equipment installation.

Chris Sutcliffe stated that a group of marines want to give back to a local community and would be delighted to come to Daufuskie and work on a project. If the timing works, possibly in December, it was suggested they might work on the process needed for playground ground cover.

Terry Elrod was thanked for her contributions to the park initiative.

Deborah Smith stated that David Wilhelm, Director of Public Works, came to Daufuskie today and met with several Council members to discuss infrastructure concerns, including the parks issues discussed above, status of county RFPs, and trash containers at public access points. The council members in attendance felt that progress was being made on many of these issues. She also said that the delay in some of the Daufuskie projects can be attributed in part to the lack of a full-time county administrator. However, yesterday the county announced the hiring of Mr. John Weaver as an Acting Administrator for at least six months.

Deborah Smith asked Casey Scott, with Dolphin Management Inc to provide a report on the new convenience center and related trash items. Casey stated that he is working with the county on an extension of their contract to service trash cans at the two public beach entrances. Although the County has recently reiterated a position held by a previous County Administrator that trash cans aren't necessary because visitors should take trash off of the island with them, the Council has been arguing that this is not realistic and the county needs to help with this initiatives. Casey Scott stated that his company has proposed five sites for trash cans and removal including the county landing, the Melrose dock, the Frances Jones Park, and two beach sites. He stated that it will probably take a couple of months to get these trash cans in place.

Erin Quinn stated that at the meeting with county staff earlier in the day, Cindy Carter (a county staff person) mentioned a potential grant to help obtain at least two trash cans. Casey Scott stated that they just wants to get this done and may move forward without the grant.

Sallie Anne Robinson stated that we appreciate the new trash facility and that the guys that staff the facility are very helpful. Casey stated that this facility is the result of public pressure put on the county by the Daufuskie community,, and acknowledged Laura Winholt's and Karen Opderbeck's long time support for the One Island Solution. Deb Smith stated that this has certainly been a team effort, but that Casey and Bill Scott made it a reality with their new service.

Deborah Smith stated that David Wilhelm was asked about the status of RFPs relating to Daufuskie projects. She stated that county responsibility for Daufuskie is spread through many departments, and sometimes that makes getting information and support difficult. She said they specifically asked about an RFP for bathrooms at Beach Road, as that effort has been pending for years. There is currently an RFP to

lease the former Marshside Mama's restaurant site with a deadline for applications set for October 31st.

### **New Business**

Deborah Smith stated that after Hurricane Matthew when the electricity went out, there was no generator at the DIUC pump station to keep the power going for water/sewer services. State Representative Jeff Bradley has been an advocate for Daufuskie with DIUC to buy a new generator. They recently reported to Mr. Bradley that they had been waiting for a rate increase to be approved by the courts, which has now happened. They now say that a customized generator was ordered six weeks ago, and they expect delivery and installation to occur by the end of December.

Leanne Coulter and Erin Quinn provided information about the Coastal Discovery Museum exhibit of Daufuskie artists, artisans, and authors is now open and will be ongoing until January 1st, with an open reception on October 25th from 5-7:00. As seen in a recent Island Packet story, John Mellencamp also has submitted a piece as a part-time islander.

### **Public Forum #2**

There were no public comments

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairperson Smith moved to adjourned, Chris Sutcliffe and John Schartner seconded the motion, and with no objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm