James Island Neighborhood Council Minutes Thursday April 26, 2018

The James Island Neighborhood Council held its scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at James Island Town Hall. The Meeting was called to order by chair Zennie Quinn.

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Welcome &	
Introduction	
New Members	Alexandra Purro representing McCall's Corner was introduced. Alexandra also
/ Visitors	coordinates the Town Market.
Approve Minutes	The March 2018 minutes were approved. Note that until the minutes are approved, the plan is to have a draft in the Neighborhood Council section of the town website.
Crime Watch & Safety	 Sgt Shawn James presented discussions from the Sheriff's Office. He just spent an hour in Clearview and did not find any flagrant speed violations. The problem there is that some streets are 30 mph and some are 25 mph. Mark J is finding problems in coordinating with other municipalities with the speed radar the town owns. He has had OK to post, NOT OK to post and OK just let me know where answers so there is a surveillance problem. Shawn passed around the new neighborhood watch special yard sign for approval. It was approved and signs will be ordered. Fred is back. For those who don't know, he is the one who cleaned some of the cemetery on Secessionville Road. DRUGS - James Island is the largest supply area for drug in the Charleston area. Make sure if you ever have contact with the drug fentanyl – do not touch or inhale it. It is lethal and it is easily absorbed through the skin. Because of the law enforcement setup the town has – the Town of James Island has more officers than any other area of the lowcountry actively patrolling our area. Again, the council is invited as a group to use one meeting to "invade" a neighborhood and let people know what the town is doing and if we see things as we walk around. Let Shawn or Zennie know to coordinate.
Program	 Shawn's number is 843-343-7777 if you need to call him. Chris Wannamaker presented information about the Charleston County Stormwater history and program. If the subdivision was built prior to 1992, few have stormwater provisions built in. From 1992 to 1997, the state started requiring mandates. Now requirements include catch basins, retention ponds, and many other requirements to ensure that water flow and water quality off of properties is kept moving and without hazardous chemicals. The county requirements are more stringent than the state. Also the town in coordination with the county has installed multiple locations where storm water is channeled to exit the land and a backflow gate (or flap) closes and stops water from returning from the harbor and flooding the land. There were several questions about new construction deforesting areas along the coast at the salt water line. This construction is going against what was told to the current residents regarding destroying bird nesting areas, drainage, woods and other issues and no matter what the residents say, the city says it is permitted. Again the city is tromping on any current residents to provide for new development. Perhaps all issues are not applicable to current guidelines. Considerable question and answers followed but the end result is that active monitoring and corrective action for construction, drainage ditches, backflow gates and other flooding issues has reduced the flooding particular on James Island.

Tech Talk	
Community Spotlight	Alan Laughlin gave a short spotlight for Lawton Bluff. The subdivision is on both sides of Harbor View Road from Ellis Creek to Quail Drive (the shopping center where the Harris Teeter is located). There are just under 600 properties in the subdivision and only about 80 entered the city, the rest are in the town. According to one realtor, Lawton Bluff is the preeminent subdivision on the island. Currently only 7 houses are for sale in the subdivision and the newest is being completed and offered for sale at \$459,900.
Neighborhood Concerns	 The City Short term rental code is now having impact on the island. The town does not allow this. Rentals must be 30 days or more. If there is a concern, contact James Hackett, CE. Folly and Camp Rd intersection is almost complete. May 5 is the Hurricane Expo at Lowes. The trucks with the huge boulders are for re-nourishment at Folly Beach Town Market is back every Saturday The Dills Bluff Sidewalk will have a boardwalk connecting the 2 parts as soon as permitting is completed. National Night Out is the 1st Tuesday in August Rethink Folly Road – CARTA will not be running to Folly this year. They are expanding and modifying bus routes for James Island
Month Emergency Tip	Pets can be scared by emergency issues as well as you. Plan beforehand or consider what to do in case of emergencies that involve pets. Food, comfort, medical, pet sitter, containment, etc
Emergency Preparedness	Lightning awareness – if you hear thunder, you can be hit by lightning. It does not have to be immediate to you. It can be 10 miles away.
Input to the Town	
Announcements	 May 24 is next meeting. Program will be from JI Rec Center. Spotlight will be from Lighthouse Point. We will be selecting a motto soon.

Submitted by Alan Laughlin