

The Planning Commission met on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 6:37 p.m. by virtual platform (Zoom). This meeting was held in a workshop setting to review the Town of James Island's Comprehensive Plan. Staff were present at the Town Hall, 1122 Dills Bluff Road, James Island, SC for those who wished to meet in person.

Planning Commissioners present: Deborah Bidwell, Zennie Quinn, Ed Steers, Vice Chair, and Bill Lyon, Chairman presided. Also, Kristen Crane, Planning Director, Flannery Wood, Planner I, Councilwoman Cynthia Mignano, and Frances Simmons, Town Clerk and Secretary to the Planning Commission.

Call to Order: Chairman Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. A quorum was present to conduct business.

Compliance with Freedom of Information Act: In compliance with the SC Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of James Island, members of the public were provided a link to the proceedings of the meeting. The public was also encouraged to submit comments or questions regarding the 5-year review of the Comprehensive Plan by email to the Planning Director at planning@jamesislandsc.us or to appear in person at the Town Hall to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meeting or to make comments virtually on Zoom.

Introductions: Chairman Lyon introduced the members of the Planning Commission, Town Council, and staff.

Approval of September 10, 2020 Minutes: Chairman Lyon called for a motion to approve the minutes of September 10. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Quinn, seconded by Commissioner Bidwell, and passed unanimously.

Public Comments: No persons were present at the Town Hall.

Public Comments on Zoom: Councilwoman Mignano announced the resignation of Commissioner Kay Kernodle on the Planning Commission and that she would be recommending Mark Maher at the October 15 Town Council Meeting as the replacement.

Mr. Joe Walters complemented Mrs. Crane, Planning Director and Ms. Wood, Planner I for their work in updating the Comprehensive Plan. He said the digital resource map is an excellent idea as well as the plans moving forward for the James Island Arts and Cultural Center. He submitted comments to Mrs. Crane for the commercial zoning for the Comprehensive Plan update.

Staff Comments: None

The Planning Commission reviewed the 5-Year Comprehensive Plan. Mrs. Crane provided an edited version of the Plan highlighted in *teal*, and the Commission followed with discussion. In addition to staff edits the Commission offered the following for inclusion in the Plan. No votes were taken.

Chapter 2:

#1: add *ecosystem services* (end of sentence)

#2: Encourage *mutualistic* redevelopmentcurrent aesthetics and *diversity*....

#3: add *preserving or improving ecosystems services* (end of sentence)

#4: add *preservation and multicultural*

#5: add *Encourage*

#6: add *resilient*

#7: Sentence to read: *A safe and inclusive transportation network that prioritizes cooperation connectivity, values.... with suburban...*

#8: add *equitable*

Chapter 3:

Second paragraph, line 4, add *ecosystems services* and ...

Paragraph 3, line 3, add *multi* (before word cultural)

Add under Land Use Element Background and Inventory of Existing Conditions, second paragraph 3rd line beauty... and *ecological function*

Community Commercial add *mutualistic ... and benefit the*

Land Use Element Needs: second bullet: add *multicultural*

Land Use Element Goal add: second sentence *ecosystems services.....*

LU4: add: *Integrate development with growth to sustainably* (beginning of sentence)

Chapter 3.2:

First paragraph: last sentence to read: The purpose and intent of this element is to provide strategies to *integrate* economic development *while maintaining* the suburban residential character of the Town.

Third paragraph: the plantation economy was based on *enslaved labor, forced* from Africa and *used* black *inhabitants* bringing their *African cultural heritage along ...*

Fifth paragraph: add *enslaved people*

ED2: Sentence to read: Ensure new commercial development is *compatible with aesthetic suburban* buildings

Chapter 3.3:

First paragraph: second sentence: aesthetically pleasing *and ecologically functional ...*

Second paragraph: (end of sentence) add: *that maintain or improve ecosystems services*

Climate:

Third paragraph: second sentence to read: *Peak hurricane.... Storm surge,... resulting in damaged infrastructure and interruptions in connectivity and public utilities*

Mrs. Crane said that she is looking for a section to add the Town Committees/Council and other groups.


Chair's Comments: None

Commissioners Comments: None

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for November 12, 2020.

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the body, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Frances Simmons

Town Clerk and Secretary to the Planning Commission