

JICANet Update

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Dec 16, 2010

*Prior Updates can be found on our website at
www.jekyllcitizens.org*

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- Clarification of Comments on the Conservation Plan Draft
- JICA Meeting Minutes - Dec 13
- Holiday candle safety

Clarification of Comments on the Conservation Plan Draft -

Regarding the suggestions by public representative Steve Newell for revision of the draft Conservation Plan, that were published in JICANet Update 60, the draft plan in question was a preliminary draft that did not yet include full, written input from the current Conservation Planning Committee. That input is to be submitted to Consultant Jay Exum from each Committee member, and the other public representative Al Tate, by 17 December 2010. After 17 December, Jay will consider each of the requested inputs, and prepare a more comprehensive draft Plan. This more comprehensive Plan will be placed on the Park Authority website on or about 1 January 2011 for review and to enable a more-informed public input.

Minutes of Dec 13 JICA Meeting-

JEKYLL ISLAND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

December 13, 2010

Attendance: Joseph Malbasa-President; Stan Jennings-Vice President; Larry Waldhauer-Treasurer; Gloria Zocchi-Secretary; Mark Lichtenstein, Norman Haft, Bob Lelli, Steve Newell and Mindy Egan

The meeting was called to order by President Malbasa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*The regular meeting will be our Annual Meeting on January 10 at McCormick's Grill at 5pm. The new officers will be sworn in, and cold appetizers and soft drinks will be served. All are invited.

*Next Monday, December 20, the regular meeting of the JIA will be held at 9:30 in the Chalets. All are urged to attend.

*The preliminary draft of the Conservation Plan is now on jekyllisland.com. On January 1 a revised draft of the plan will be released on the Jekyll Island Park website, the public will have 30-45 days to review and submit comments.

The minutes of the November JICA meeting were accepted.

The Treasurer's report was given by Larry Waldhauer. The balance as of November 8, 2010 was \$12,670.65. Since then we have received \$1095 in dues, and had expenditures of \$578 for room rental and web page fees. The balance as of December 13 is \$13,187.05. The treasurer's report was accepted as stated.

Meghan Jeffries gave a membership report as follows: There are 82 individual members and 154 family members for a total of 390 voting members. Dues are now due. They are \$40 for families and \$25 for singles. Membership forms can be found on the jekyllcitizens.com website.

OLD BUSINESS:

All members are urged to check out the draft of the Conservation Plan which can be found on the internet. Mindy Egan stated that there are many good things in the plan, but pay special attention to pages 32 and 33, which deal with how development is going to be handled. It could be a problematic section.

Norman Haft assumes that the development will be within the 65%/35% guidelines, even though the Conservation Plan doesn't address this clearly.

Maureen Humphries asked if anyone from the Citizen's Association is on the Conservation Committee. The answer was no, but Steve Newell was invited to review it. She was surprised about that because at the JIA meeting there seemed to be several people in the audience who were very knowledgeable in this area. She then asked if there was any accountability for the JIA. Norm stated that management policies were discussed at the meeting.

Ms. Humphries then asked where is the campground in all of this? She felt that this needed to be addressed. Mindy stated that as a citizen you can point out when the rules and regulations are violated, and she urged Ms. Humphries to attend the JIA meeting next week.

Frank Mirasola stated that historically the policy is to exclude citizen residents from the JIA Board because they feel it is a conflict of interest.

Mindy said this is the reason why it is important to attend meetings because citizen input is very important, especially with this Conservation Plan. It is because of the need for citizen input that Steve Newell and Al Tate are allowed to review the plan. Citizens DO make a difference.

President Malbasa stated that we are all voters in the state of Georgia, and together we can speak volumes. Just showing up at meetings makes a difference.

Mindy urged that we be in touch with our new politicians in this regard: Representative Alex Atwood and Senator William Ligon. Call them and make your voices heard.

NEW BUSINESS

The new JICA Board nominees are to be inducted next month at the Annual meeting on January 10 at 5pm at McCormick's Grill. The nominees are Larry Waldhauer, Bob Lelli and Rick Hoffman. Nominations will also be taken from the floor. Our fiscal year now runs from January 1 through December 31.

With no further items on the agenda the meeting was adjourned.

Holiday Candle Safety - Chief Richardson - Director Public Safety JI

With the holidays fast approaching and the increased usage of seasonal decorations, it is important to focus on candle fire safety and prevention. Because the majority of candle fires result from human error and negligence, candle fires and their associated casualties are preventable.

- If possible, avoid using lighted candles.
- If you must use candles, ensure that they are placed in sturdy holders.
- Keep candles away from children and pets.
- Be sure to extinguish candles after each use.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.

By following a few candle fire safety tips, everyone can enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

Causes and Circumstances of Home Candle Fires:

- On average, 42 home candle fires are reported every day.
- More than half of all candle fires start when something that could burn, such as furniture, mattresses or bedding, curtains, or decorations is too close to the candle.
- In one-fifth (20%) of candle fires, the candles are unattended or abandoned.
- Over one-third (36%) of home candle fires begin in the bedroom.
- Falling asleep is a factor in 12% of home candle fires and 36% of the associated deaths.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December, 13% of home candle fires begin with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.
- One-half of home candle fire deaths occur between Midnight and 6 am.
- Young children and older adults have the highest death risk from candle fires.
- The risk of fatal candle fires appears higher when candles are used for light.

Sources: NFIRS, NFPA

Candle Safety Tips:

- Avoid using lighted candles.
- If you do use candles, ensure they are in sturdy metal, glass or ceramic holders and placed where they cannot be easily knocked down.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Set a good example by using matches, lighters, and fire carefully.
- Children should never be allowed to play with matches, lighters, or candles.
- Never put candles on a Christmas tree.
- Extinguish candles after use and before going to bed.
- And NEVER leave burning candles unattended!

Remember! Candle fires are PREVENTABLE!

In the event of a fire, remember time is the biggest enemy and every second counts!

Escape first, and then call for help. Develop a home fire escape plan and practice it frequently with your family. Designate a meeting place outside. Make sure everyone in the family knows two ways to escape from every room.

Never stand up in a fire, always crawl low under the smoke, and try to keep your mouth covered. Never return to a burning building for any reason: it may cost you your life.

Finally, having a working smoke alarm dramatically increases your chances of surviving a fire.

---and that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds and old man Jack Frost has paid us a visit!!! -- Jim Reed, JICANet Editor

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