

JICANet Update

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Minutes of Jekyll Island Citizens Association Meeting of Nov 9

Attendance: Rich Hoffman, Vice President; Larry Waldhauer, Treasurer; Gloria Zocchi, Secretary; Steve Newell, Stan Jennings, Mindy Egan, and Frank Mirasola. Absent were Co-Presidents Haft and Lelli and board Member Richard Van Iderstyne.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Rich Hoffman.

MINUTES-Gloria Zocchi

Larry Waldhauer made a motion to accept the minutes. Frank Mirasola seconded. The minutes were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Larry Waldhauer

The balance as of November 9, 2009 was \$14,888.61. Credits for the month were \$263 and expenses were \$727.20. Frank made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mindy seconded. The report was accepted.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT-Megan Jeffries

As of today there are 99 individual memberships and 208 family memberships with a total of 515 voting members.

OLD BUSINESS

Bonnie Newell had several comments.

1. What are we doing wrong that there aren't more members here, attending the meeting?

2. The newsletter was a disappointment. There was no information about the leases. It cost \$700 to send out the newsletter and there was nothing important in it. There is a need to have the latest information because there seems to be mass confusion about the leases.

3. The lease proposal contains extortion. The fact that houses can be taken from owners in 2049 is unfair.

4. The year to sign up should be from the date the JIA Board approves the proposal and it is offered to the leasees, not from the first of the year.

Pat Overholt said that the JIA Financial Committee is going to have another meeting on Monday, Nov. 16 at 8:30 am in the Convention Center to discuss the lease proposal.

Sandy Cerrato mentioned that there is a need to reach out to the twenty people who have not even signed up the ten year lease extension. It was suggested that JICA offer to assist the JIA with the process.

Howard Sculthorpe was worried about the private meetings between our co-presidents and Mr. Hooks. The entire board should also be privy to that information. The membership also needs to know what is going on.

There was a discussion about the Glynn County assessment of Jekyll property. the concern expressed was the manner and timing in which the assessments would be accomplished. Frank Mirasola pointed out that the state law clearly defines that reassessments must be made by the Glynn County Board of Assessors at least every three years and prescribes the manner in which it is done. It is governed by law and there is an appeal process provided.

Darryl Davidson mentioned that renters are already paying a 7% tax. To put another 3% on top of that is not a good idea.

Jean Poleszak mentioned that originally both the JIA and resident leases were meant to expire by 2049 with the expectation that they would be reviewed concurrently, which Jean believed was the intent of the original legislation. Frank Mirasola stated that with the passage of HB214 the JIA lease alone was extended to 2089.

Ron Willnow said that taking a stand is a matter of urgency. What can be done now? JICA should come forward and take a stance. Alternatives are needed.

Kaye Hoffman mentioned that she had received a communication from Jekyll Realty that did an excellent job of describing the new lease proposal with some examples of the impact for current leaseholders. Jean Poleszak asked if it could be shared with the JICA membership through JICANET.

Rick Hoffman reported that Gil McLemore says that everything that the JIA is doing appears to be legal on the lease extension issue. Rick is unhappy that there is no cap on the increase from property assessments, that there is the 3% increase for rentals, and that there is a transfer fee.

Stan Jennings stated that we should wait until after the meeting on November 16 to make a decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Ron Smith had some information for us.

1. The gas station tanks and pumps are gone. There also were tanks by the wharf which have been removed.
2. The birding platform on the south end should be finished by next week.
3. Glynn County has voted to freeze SPLOST monies. Our portion of that is \$40,000 a month; therefore, it will take awhile to save for new projects.

Mindy Egan asked about resurfacing the parking lot south of the Comfort Inn. Ron stated that that was not a high priority.

Bonnie Newell asked about getting the Amphitheater used again. This also is not a high priority at this time.

Jack Overholt said that we pay a substantial fire fee each year and asked if the new buildings will also be paying a fair share. Ron stated that there is also a need for a new ladder truck, and the all new building leases will pay a fire fee.

Howard Sculthorpe mentioned that there is a blood drive at the Convention Center on November 19 from 1-6.

Bonne Newell reminded all present that there is a Pottery Guild Sale on November 28 at the Annex, and that Thanksgiving dinner will again be served at Goodyear Cottage for those who cannot be with family. Jean Poleszak has information for those interested.

Phyllis Gaska reported that Jekyll Island has reached 30% of the \$25,000 goal for the United Way. It did not seem that Jekyll was going to reach this goal. As a result, there are some additional projects which have been arranged:

1. A United Way Golf Tournament is scheduled for November 14 on Jekyll. The cost is \$50 for golf, a cart, lunch and prizes.
2. A Mega Raffle has been planned which will run through Thanksgiving. There will be three winners. The tickets are available at Jekyll Realty, the Ameris

Bank, the golf course, the Red Bug Restaurant and the Jekyll Island Hotel as well as other locations.

3. On Friday, November 13 Charlene Huling and Phyllis will be selling hotdogs in front of the bank for the United Way.

With no further comments from the audience, Vice President Hoffman adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Zocchi

Jekyll Island Arts Association Annual Advanced Members' Show

This annual show will be held in the gallery of Goodyear Cottage in the Historic District from December 1 to January 3. The Association's finest artists will each display their recent, original works including paintings, pottery, weaving and basketry. Everyone is invited to attend the opening reception Sat, Dec 5 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Admission is always free at Goodyear's Gallery and shop where regular hours are Mon.– Fri., Noon – 4:00 PM and weekends 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. For more information call 635-3092.

Town Hall Meeting Rescheduled

The JIA Town Hall Meeting originally announced for this week was postponed because of schedule conflicts. It has been rescheduled for Thursday, Dec 10, from 5:00 – 6:30 PM Upstairs at Morgan's Grill, Jekyll Island Golf Course

Executive Director Jones Hooks and key management of the Jekyll Island Authority will be hosting an open dialogue with residents, business owners and interested parties to discuss operational issues and opportunities on Jekyll Island.

Jekyll Island Town Hall Meetings are a regular forum of informal dialogue. There is no agenda in this meeting format, and attendees are welcome to drop in at any time during the 1 1/2 hour gathering and join the discussion.

Reminders of Previously Announced Events

- Garden Club Bake Sale and Lions Club Annual Cheese Sale, Nov 21, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, JI Shopping Center.
- JIAA Pottery Guild annual Holiday Sale, Sat Nov 28, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Guild Annex in the JI Shopping Center

---and that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds and it's Cheesehead's day tomorrow. --- Darrell Davidson, Interim JICANet Editor

JICANet Updates are distributed periodically by the Jekyll Island Citizens Association to its members and interested parties. To subscribe or unsubscribe send an email to jicanet@jekyllcitizens.org.