

Town of Oriental – Board of Commissioners Council Retreat
January 28, 2012

The Oriental Town Board of Commissioners met on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at 10:00 AM at the Harbor House at River Dunes

Present were: Mayor Sage and Commissioners Bessette, Johnson, Styron, Summers and Venturi
Town Manager Maxbauer, Deputy Clerk Wagoner and Office Manager Artley
Interim Police Chief Moore
Chairman Overcash, Planning Board
Chairman Wall, Tourism Board
Chairman Miller, Tree Board
Secretary Magnuson, Parks & Rec Advisory Committee
Committee Member Sage, Long Range Planning Committee II
Chairman Valinoti, Board of Adjustment and Recycling Coordinator
3 members of the public

Mayor Sage welcomed everyone present and then handed the meeting over to Mr. Maxbauer who gave a re-cap of the previous day's retreat (see minutes dated January 27, 2012 for more details). Topics discussed on this day were:

- ETJ - how and why
- Chris Fulcher's proposed land swap at the end of South Avenue
- Public restrooms
- Multi-purpose path linking Dolphin Point area to the rest of Oriental (grants are available)
- Sidewalk extension from Church St. to Ragan St., ADA compliant. Tree Board to be consulted.
- Clean up hurricane debris around Duck Ponds
- Boxed culvert over Hodges St. at the town dock
- Mooring field in the harbor
- Create a Master Harbor Plan
- Dark Sky Lighting Ordinance
- Put more benches around town
- Improve Rec Park facilities - Consider adding bathrooms, a dog park, and a skateboard park. But first, clean up and maintain what we already have
- Tennis courts - fix the one we have and consider adding more at the Rec Park
- Update the Oriental Thoroughfare Plan
- Consider obtaining the anchor to the S.S. Oriental
- Police Dept. - increase manpower
- Town vehicles - need to budget for replacement trucks for Public Works and consider a vehicle for administration to use

- Consider having the town sponsor some of the bigger events (Croaker Festival, Spirit of Christmas and Running of the Dragon) and consider having the Spirit of Christmas be a month long event.

Deputy Clerk Wagoner distributed Volunteer Board/Committee Rules of Procedure notebooks to each of the different boards to use as a reference tool for meeting procedures.

Tree Board Chairman Miller distributed the Tree Board's annual report (a copy of the report is hereby made a part of these minutes) and stated that they have been diligently following the Master Tree plan by planting and maintaining the town trees.

Long Range Planning Committee II Member Dee Sage talked briefly about the work being done to create the town's Comprehensive Plan and displayed a prototype of what the actual plan will look like.

Planning Board Chairman Overcash reported that the board has been working on the Comprehensive Plan (each Planning Board member is also a member of the LRPCII) and reviewing building and sign permits for compliance with the GMO.

Board of Adjustment Chairman Valinoti commented on the lack of need to have meetings with his board and attributed it to either the GMO being too lenient or the Board of Commissioners having the authority that normally resides with the Board of Adjustment. He asked, why have a Board of Adjustment? Why not merge it with the Planning Board as a subcommittee? Mayor Sage responded that that the lack of meetings is simply due to the lack of variance requests.

Regarding recycling, Mr. Valinoti stated that he needed a better way to communicate with the public in order to increase recycling.

Commissioner Venturi asked to go on record stating that taxes will not be raised in order to accomplish the list of projects. Manager Maxbauer concurred. To end the retreat, the Board agreed to continue the discussions at the end of the next Agenda Workshop that will start an hour earlier at 4:30 PM.

William R. Sage, Mayor

Robert J. Maxbauer, Town Manager