ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4:00pm, Thursday, July 9, 2026
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC
and broadcasted live on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms

MINUTES

1. **Call to order**

Present: Laura Lovins, Sean Popson, Susan Smith, Eric Cicora, Cindy Marrs (via Zoom), Todd Murphy (via Zoom), Charlotte Webster

Staff Present: Administrator Kerr, Deputy Administrator Kuester, Council Member Miars

Absent: Britton Foy

2. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes**

MOTION: Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2026 meeting, and Ms. Popson seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

3. **Citizen's Comments -- none**

4. **Presentation – none**

5. **Old Business**

A. **Update on Native Tree guide and potential tree ordinance changes**

Ms. Smith shared that the Native Tree Subcommittee met with Jerry Benoit, an arborist, who provided a list of suggestions to consider for amending the tree ordinance. She reviewed those suggestions from the meeting packet. The subcommittee will continue to work on changes to the ordinance and bring them before the full committee for discussion and consideration.

B. **Discussion of Palm Path brochure draft**

Committee members made numerous suggestions and observations about the Palm Path brochure draft. Administrator Kerr pointed out that the brochure's focus should be narrowed to the information short-term rental visitors would need to know. He suggested that future iterations of the brochure could be directed towards other audiences. He suggested bringing the brochure back in August when the Committee can talk about proper distribution channels.

Administrator Kerr will discuss the brochure's contents with the Public Safety Committee.

D. **Discussion of tree bank grant program**

Ms. Lovins proposed a similar process for review in the tree bank grant program as is done with ATAX grants. She would like to see applications considered twice a year.

Committee members discussed a tiered approach to awarding grants, but ultimately decided that the program would start without tiers and add in more incentives or parameters as necessary. Revisions to the program will be discussed at the August meeting.

6. **New Business**

A. **Discussion of potential ordinance related to trash debris from commercial dumpsters**

Council Member Miars expressed her concern about overfull construction trash dumpsters allowing trash to fly out of them and into the marsh as the trucks cross the Isle of Palms Connector. The only recourse is if a member of the Police Department happens to see the trash leave the truck. She would like to see an ordinance requiring inspection of the construction dumpsters included in the building code, giving the City the authority to require the trash be properly secured and or emptied without littering.

Administrator Kerr said staff will prepare a redline of an ordinance for the Committee to consider next month.

B. **Discussion of "Start the Month Clean" campaign**

Ms. Smith said she is working with PIO Uys on a press release about this campaign for the City's website.

7. **Miscellaneous**

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be Thursday, August 13, 2026 at 4pm.

8. **Adjournment**

Ms. Smith made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Popson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk