

Town of Kiawah Island Dock Subcommittee Meeting Summary

April 27, 2017

2:00 PM

Town of Kiawah Island Town Hall
21 Beachwalker Drive
Kiawah Island, SC

Attendance: Fred Peterson, Gale Messerman, Brit Stenson, Amanda Mole, John Taylor, Jr., Charles Lipuma, and Blair Williams.

The subcommittee focused on permitting procedures, inspections, and enforcement. Mr. Blair Williams, Wetland Permitting Section Manager of DHEC/OCRM joined the subcommittee to enlighten the nuances regarding the permitting process of private recreational single and joint use docks. Mr. Williams reviewed the permitting process for OCRM to obtain a dock permit, public notification and appeal process, as well as answered several questions of the committee. Additional support to increase oversight in the understanding and management through DHEC/OCRM's public notifications was requested by the subcommittee. An additional planning contact will be requested to receive public notices.

Significant takeaways for the subcommittee:

- A 15-day public notice period once an application is received, where the local municipality and adjacent property owners are notified of the request.
- Subsequently there is a 30-day review period where OCRM staff conducts a review including thorough GIS analysis, sizing requirements, reviewing navigable waters, impact to species, pictometry, and an onsite review.
- OCRM has an office which specifically address compliance for docks by which is done through two primary outlets, consistent review of regular permitted docks and complaint driven.
- OCRM does not have the ability to enforce local municipality ordinances.

The subcommittee shared the importance of the Town being the lead agency in the management of docks. The subcommittee also reviewed the existing replacement and repair framework for created after Hurricane Matthew impact. Supplementary documents will be drafted by planning staff for the next meeting to aide partners in the approval process and intent of the key location ordinance.

The next meeting date is tentatively set for Thursday June 8th 2:00 PM at Town of Kiawah Island Town Hall.