

**Minutes
Council Retreat
Yvonne C. Butler Council Chambers, 700 Paris Avenue**

February 8, 2008

Members Present: Mayor Samuel Murray and Councilmembers Vernon DeLoach, Joe Lee and Henry Robinson

Members Absent: Councilmember Mary Beth Heyward

Staff Present: Town Manager Van Willis, Planning Administrator Linda Bridges and Municipal Clerk Tanya Payne

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Murray called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed those present.

II. INTRODUCTIONS / PURPOSE:

Mayor Murray introduced consultant Jane Peeples from the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

III. PORT ROYAL'S PLANNING HISTORY / CURRENT STATUS:

Planning Administrator Bridges gave a brief history of the Town's zoning ordinance, the Master Plan, Traditional Town Overlay and the 1999 Comprehensive Plan. She said the Comprehensive Plan would be updated by March 2009 as required by state law.

IV. FACILITATED DIALOG:

Ms. Peeples asked Council what their vision was for the Town and what course they would take in order to implement these ideas.

Council discussed their ideas and wishes for the future of the Town.

V. SUMMARY:

Ms. Peeples told Council she had derived three issues from the discussion that they needed to work on. They were to create more communication with residents through workshops and increase discussions between council and the appointed boards; address zoning designations for annexed properties and be prepared to make changes to the Master Plan.

VI. CLOSING COMMENTS

Councilmember Lee said Council needed to be willing to make changes and requested that they have more retreats.

Councilmember DeLoach stated that they needed to look into the zoning of annexed areas and what burdens these annexations would place on schools. He also said they needed to do what was best for the Town and its citizens

Mayor Murray said they needed more communication with the citizens from all over Town. He also suggested meeting with the various boards for a better understanding of what they do.

David Kell suggested a workshop on MU-2 zoning to consider changes in lot sizes and parking.

Mike Jones spoke concerning the overlay district, refining laws concerning multi-family developments, parking and expressed concerns about new developments that would not be good for the soon to be historic district.

John Ellerbe said multi-family units encouraged transient rentals. He also asked Council to be careful concerning the development of the Port property.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further comment, the Retreat adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya L. Payne
Municipal Clerk

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80(d), as amended, notification of the retreat was posted at Town Hall two weeks prior to the meeting. A copy of the agenda was posted at the meeting location and given to the local news media.