

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

January 9, 2006

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The Jekyll Island-State Park Authority met in public session on Monday, January 9, 2006, in Meeting Room 9 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center on Jekyll Island, Georgia. Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Richard Wood, Chairman
J. Y. Jones, Vice-Chairman
Mike Hodges, Secretary

[Arrived 10:10 a.m.] Steve Scheer
Jack Collins
Becky Kelley
Ed Boshears
Sybil Lynn

Members Absent: Tom Lewis

Legal Counsel Present: Alison Spencer, Asst. Attorney General

Staff Present: Bill Donohue, Executive Director
Laura Bonds, Deputy Director/CFO
Cynthia Hutchinson, Executive Secretary

Guests Present: Pat Wilson
Merritt Myers
Jared Downs
Eric Butts

Various members of the public were present, including Mr. V. Hughes, Mr. L. Evans, Mr. C. J. Jefferies, Mr. V. Hart, Mr. C. McManus, Mr. S. Holloway, Ms. D. Fry, Ms. H. Forehand, Mr. W. Forehand, Jr., Mr. T. Eyler, Mr. F. Mirasola and Mr. J. Morrison for the Golden Islander.

Chairman Wood introduced Mr. Pat Wilson, Director of Federal Affairs for the State of Georgia in Washington, D.C., Ms. Merritt Myers, Legislative Director for Representative Kingston in Washington, D.C., Mr. Jared Downs, Regional Director for Senator Isakson in Savannah area and Mr. Eric Butts, Regional Director for Senator Chambliss in Savannah area.

Mr. Wilson stated that resolving the CBRA issue was a major priority of every Georgia congressman and Congressman Kingston is going to reintroduce the bill excluding 35% of Jekyll Island from the OPA. Hearings are expected to be held in March or April, and will probably include other CBRA-related requests. Mr. Wilson fielded questions from Board members and audience: he is not aware of any group against the Jekyll proposal, but the Authority must be prepared to respond if some group does show opposition; if the bill is not approved by October

▫ Call to Order

▫ Attendance

▫ Introduction of Guests

▫ CBRA Discussion

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2006, the process would have to begin over, however, the House could pass the bill and the Senate take up the House bill; he doesn't see any stumbling block to the Authority meeting with the Committee, and if the Authority is needed, he will be the first to let the Authority know; it is his understanding that Senator Gilchrist wants to arguments for passage of the bill in addition to the one argument that Jekyll was included in OPA in error.

Dr. Jones said it is important that Jekyll's congressional allies know that Jekyll Island was included in OPA in error. He wants our congressional allies to help Jekyll Island by giving back the 35% so residents and businesses will be able to obtain flood insurance. Chairman Wood stated the necessary CBRA corrections should have been done administratively by US Fish & Wildlife. Dr. Jones said the tradition of U.S. Fish and Wildlife is not to do anything administratively, but Ms. Myers stated U.S. Fish and Wildlife has taken an interest in Jekyll's map.

Mr. Hodges asked about CBRA litigation, and Mr. Wilson responded that immediately on a suit being filed, Congress would totally drop the issue. Everything pertaining to the bill would stop. Ms. Myers stated she knows of no other bill requesting the same relief as Jekyll Island.

Mr. Collins stated the Jekyll Island Citizens Association is willing to help in any way. Mr. Wilson said the Authority should try to get support letters sent to Congressmen by as many groups and committees as possible.

Mr. Wilson commended Chairman Wood for so strongly advocating resolution of the CBRA issues.

Ms. Bonds reviewed the highlights of the latest map prepared at the suggestion of U.S. Fish and Wildlife. She stated the Authority was asked to be certain the map showed the 65% left in OPA. Actually, the map shows 65.3% left in OPA, including the shoreline.

-Georgia Coast Inn-

Chairman Wood requested an update on Georgia Coast Inn discussions. Ms. Spencer, Legal Counsel, stated a new workout agreement had been forwarded in draft form to the Lessees and their mortgagees for review.

Chairman Wood said he was very upset by his visit to the GCI site, which has been extensively vandalized. The Authority had to construct a chain link fence to protect the property and enclose a dangerous situation. He also noted the Lessees had not paid Glynn County taxes for the last few years and questioned the status of the property insurance. Lessee Ms. Debbie Fry stated she had a copy of the insurance policy to present to the Board. Mr. Holloway stated the GCI was closed and idle because he was

▫ CBRA Discussion
(cont'd)

▫ Georgia Coast Inn

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unable to get guidance or approval from the Authority for redevelopment.

The Board discussed the content of the Georgia Coast Inn workout agreement. The agreement would require the Lessees, within 45 days, to submit a feasibility study, provide proof of financial ability, and provide general information on their development plan. The Authority knows that Lessees owe \$93,000 in back taxes; Ms. Fry stated she has an appointment with the Glynn County Tax Commissioner this afternoon.

-Huddle House-

Mr. Donohue announced that Friday's Brunswick News published the Authority's notice of intent to tear down Huddle House.

-Summer Waves-

Mr. Donohue reported the bids received from outside management companies were not feasible for Summer Waves in the short-term. The Authority could not afford at this time to repair the wave pool, so would cover it and add a stage and a Splash Zone attraction for the 6-10 year olds.

The meeting recessed at 10:50 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2006.

Public session reconvened and the meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2006, in Beachside Hall at the Jekyll Island Convention Center.

Chairman Wood and Mr. Donohue presented a Faithful Service Award to Clinton "Ted" Carnes, in recognition of his 30 years service to the State of Georgia and the Jekyll Island Authority.

Chairman Wood introduced Mr. Pat Wilson, Governor Perdue's Director of Federal Affairs, who has been working with the Authority on CBRA issues. Mr. Wilson said Jekyll Island's CBRA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife issues are a top priority. Governor Perdue wrote a letter¹ to Congressman Pombo that Mr. Wilson hand delivered. He and Ms. Merritt Myers, from Congressman Kingston's office, called on attendees to provide support, and said they would coordinate information for residents through Tise Eyler, JICA President. Mr. Wilson is confident Jekyll Island presents a meritorious situation for legislative relief.

Ms. Lynn moved, seconded by Mr. Boshears, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2005 and December 5, 2005 Board meetings. Motion carried with all in favor.

-Georgia Coast Inn-

Mr. Scheer thanked Chairman Wood for investigating the potential hazards existing at the Georgia Coast Inn. Mr. Scheer moved, seconded

▫ Georgia Coast Inn (cont'd)

▫ Huddle House

▫ Summer Waves

▫ Meeting Recessed

▫ Meeting reconvened & called to order

▫ Faithful Service Award

▫ Introduction of Guests

▫ Minutes Motion & approval

▫ Georgia Coast Inn

▫ GCI Motion & Second

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Mr. Collins and then Mr. Wood responded with assurances the Governor's office was giving the CBRA issue high priority.

There being no further business, Mr. Scheer moved and Dr. Jones seconded to adjourn the January 9, 2006 meeting of the Jekyll Island-State Park Authority. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

ATTEST:

William A. Donohue
Executive Director

APPROVED:

Richard V. Wood
Chairman

- Motion to Adjourn

- Meeting Adjourned

Attachments

- Agenda
- ¹ - Cong. Pombo Letter
- ² - Summer Waves Splash Zone Recommendation
- ³ - Sign-In Sheet – Public Comments

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