

**Kiawah Property Owners Group, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting, March 5, 2008**

The regular monthly meeting of the Kiawah Island Property Owners Group (KPOG) was held at the Sandcastle on Kiawah Island at 9:00AM, Wednesday, March 5, 2008. Board Members in attendance were President Art Morgenstern, Vice President Arie DeZanger, Treasurer Pete Silveston, Secretary Ron Ritchie and Board Members Charlie Smith and Katie Kotz. Board Member Bob Oakman also was in attendance via teleconferencing. Member guests in attendance were Past President Diane Lehder, Past Treasurer Ben Farabee, Past Secretary Sandy Williams, Past Board Member Laurie Burpee, Wendy Kulick, Greg VanDerwerker, as well as TALK Editor Barbara Winslow and Database Manager Kathy Heikes.

The minutes of the February Board Meeting were approved as written.

Pete Silveston report that the transition between himself and the former treasurer had gone well and the books look to be in excellent shape. Pete will pursue getting an audit of the books done by a volunteer former accountant who lives on the island. It is not deemed necessary to have a full blown audit done by an outside accounting firm at this time.

Katie Kotz in her role as membership chair announced that a letter is going out in the next two weeks as reminder for those members who have not sent in their membership renewal checks, and as an invitation for property owners who are not members to join KPOG. She also stated that as of March 4<sup>th</sup> we had 1781 members signed up, a total that was far ahead of the figure for this time last year.

Kathy Heikes acquainted the Board with a problem if, and when, we wanted to send mass E-Mail messages to all members. At present we cannot do it given the limitations with our current data base system and the fact that members cannot be contacted via this means unless they have agreed to receive them. To do so they have to sign into the system and agree to receive such correspondence. Kathy indicated she is getting to work to address both of these problems.

#### OLD BUSINESS

By-Laws: Art Morgenstern informed the Board that one issue remains regarding changes to the group's by-laws. This centers on how we treat property owners vs. long term renters. He will discuss with KICA how they handle this issue and report back to the Board at a future meeting as to possible resolution of this issue.

The Board was reminded that our liability insurance will be up for renewal this summer and initial work needs to start to ensure we continue to have coverage.

Communications with KICA: Barbara Winslow discussed the ongoing situation relative to our communications with KICA. The COO of KICA has suggested that KPOG consider allowing the TALK Editor to review with them any articles that were being written about the community association prior to the article actually appearing in TALK. After some discussion the Board unanimously agreed that this was a contrary to the principle of freedom of the press and such a suggestion would not be accepted. It was agreed however that in instances where an article was being written on a technical subject, where the need existed to get such data stated correctly, that such a course would be both acceptable and desirable.

Town of Kiawah Island and Freedom of Information Act: At the February Board Meeting it was agreed that KPOG would ask Jay Bender (an outside attorney very knowledgeable on FOIA) to write a letter to the town advising them of our opinion that they are in violation of the act and request they to make the necessary changes to be in compliance. Art Morgenstern will follow up to ensure that the letter is written. (See the February Board Minutes for additional information on this subject.)

Annual Meeting: The consensus of the Board was that the KPOG's Annual Meeting had gone extremely well. A number of favorable comments were received from attendees.

Safety and Security: The number of incidents reported for February took a sharp upward jump from what was recorded in January. The increase was solely attributed to distemper problems with the island's raccoon population. No reliable traffic count statistics were available for February.

Development Agreement: there is nothing new on the ongoing discussions between the resort and the Town on a new Development Agreement.

Roads: KPOG will sponsor an open forum on March 26<sup>th</sup> which will solely address the proposed extension of I-526. It will not touch on the questions concerning upgrades to roads on Johns Island. This event will be publicized both on our island, as well as in the Seabrooker and the Island Connection. The meeting will be open to all interested parties regardless of where they live. Diane Lehder will make sure that the details are posted on our web site.

A question was raised by a Board Member as to whether KPOG, as an organization, should take a position on the ongoing controversy regarding improvements to Johns Island roads. No decision was reached however as several board members questioned whether the Board itself had the expertise to intelligently weigh in on the subject. It was pointed out that Seabrook residents have had no reluctance to get heavily involved and it was suggested that we might pursue networking with them to see if both islands could develop a united approach.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board Meetings: All Board Meetings for the balance of 2008 will be held on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:00 AM at the Sandcastle. The April meeting, which originally was set for the 9<sup>th</sup> will be moved back to the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Board Assignments: Art Morgenstern discussed the need for various Board members to indicate their wishes for specific assignments on various standing KPOG committees. These include one additional person for Membership in addition to Katie Kotz, another individual for the Editorial Board in addition to Art and Barbara Winslow, Safety and Security as well as the Nominating Committee. In addition, a back up for the Treasurer is a priority as well as individuals who will be responsible to attend Town Council and KICA Meetings as well as Mornings with Joe. Volunteers are also needed to follow the roads issue, the progress on the development agreement and research on current, ongoing, activities such as the current KICA study on amenities/long range planning.. Art asked each Board Member to call or E-Mail him within the next week to state their assignment preferences.

Bob Oakman and Arie deZanger expressed an interest in Safety and Security. It was subsequently agreed that Bob Oakman would assume responsibility for these activities..

Volunteers: Katie Kotz will put together a comprehensive list of KPOG members who have indicated a willingness to volunteer to help the organization when additional assistance is needed for various projects/activities. This list will be distributed to all Board Members.

Check Signing: It was agreed that in addition to the Treasurer, Art Morgenstern and Ron Ritchie will be authorized to sign checks for the organization.

Wed Site Update: Kathy Heikes will update the KPOG web site to reflect the new officers and the revised by-laws approved by the membership at the March 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting.

Property Tax Reform: Diane Ledher raised the question as to whether KPOG should get involved on the issue of property tax reform for non-residents of South Carolina. This obviously is a matter of interest to a number of KPOG members who are not permanent residents of Kiawah. Should we marshal folks to write letters, contact legislators etc. on the subject? Bob Oakman agreed that he would pursue this question further and report back to the Board.

Data Base: Kathy Heikes pointed out that we need a record of what leaves our data base, who receives it and for what purpose the information would be used. While this has not been an issue in the past it is important that we remain diligent on this subject to ensure that vital member data is not compromised.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50AM and the members then collected for a group photo to be published in the next issue of TALK.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Ritchie  
Secretary