



The Town of Fenwick Island

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AD HOC DARKSKY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 27, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

Members Present: Janice Bortner (Zoom), Rose Mary Hoy (Zoom), George Stone (Zoom), Kate Norman (Zoom),

Others Present: Kerin Magill (Zoom), Natalie Magdeburger (Zoom), Ann Riley (Zoom)

Staff Present: Kathy Grab

Flag salute and call to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from November 12, 2024

a. **Motion to approve November 12, 2024 meeting minutes on a George Stone/Kate Norman motion.**

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of Mission Statement (Guest Natalie Magdeburger)

a. Rose Mary Hoy asked for Natalie Magdeburger to explain the different components of the mission statement.

- The committee was given three missions: education, gauging the community's stance, then lighting code updates. The goal is to balance education, community input, and practical adjustments to the lighting code, taking into account differing opinions on lighting for security vs. environmental benefits.

b. Rose Mary Hoy asked Natalie Magdeburger to explain the town survey.

- The survey is part of an ongoing effort to gather community input on various issues in town. The goal is to include 2-3 questions related to Dark Sky initiatives to assess whether it is a priority for residents. This will help determine how

important the issue is to the community, beyond just the committee or Town Council's view. The survey should be completed before summer, and feedback on useful questions is needed to encourage resident participation.

- George Stone asked about the process of adopting a new ordinance in Fenwick Island. Natalie Magdeburger explained that the committee will review the lighting ordinance and make recommendations to the Council, which will then refer it to the Charter and Ordinance Committee. After revisions and hearings, the Council will proceed with a second reading for adoption. Existing buildings are grandfathered; changes apply to new builds only. The focus is on public education for voluntary compliance, with legal and equity concerns addressed.

3. For Discussion and Possible Action

- a. Natalie Magdeburger requested the committee to write a resolution for the Town of Fenwick Island - DarkSky - to be brought to the Town Council.

- Rose Mary Hoy shared and read the draft resolution of the DarkSky Initiatives that was worked on by the committee that will be brought to Town Council for consideration.

- **Motion to send to the Town Council for Consideration on a Janice Bortner/George Stone motion.**

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Committee Chair Position

- Janice Bortner advised that Rosemary is the ideal choice for this role, supported by the team and mayor. Despite her busy schedule, she is the perfect advocate, and we appreciate her stepping up. Rose Mary Hoy Thanked Janice Bortner for her comments and advised her hesitation in the past was ensuring she could do her best, given her other commitments. However, with this great team and support from the mayor and staff, she is confident she can meet expectations.
- **Motion to send to Town Council for their consideration and approval to appoint Rose Mary Hoy as the chair of the Ad Hoc DarkSky Committee on a George Stone/Janice Bortner motion.**

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

- a. None

5. New Business

a. 2025 Action Plan (e.g., 2025 Objectives, Public Education, Survey, etc.)

- Rose Mary Hoy stated the committee will develop a detailed action plan for the year, focusing on public education and involvement in the town's upcoming survey. Once the resolution is approved, the plan will be brought to the committee for public review and approval.

6. Public Participation

a. None

7. Future Meeting

a. To be determined.

8. Adjournment

a. Motion to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. on a Janice Bortner/George Stone Motion

Motion passed unanimously.