



# The Town of Fenwick Island

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## AD HOC DARKSKY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

**Members' Present:** Rose Mary Hoy (Zoom), George Stone (Zoom), Steve Ross (Zoom), Megan Staczek (Zoom),

**Others Present:**

**Staff Present:** Kathy Grab

Flag salute and call to order at 10:07 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2026.

**Motion: Approve the Minutes of February 4, 2026.**

**Moved By: Megan Staczek**

**Seconded by: George Stone**

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**Motion: Approve the Minutes of March 4, 2026, with the following edits:**

**Section 3, Letter a: Add "proposed" before the word website content under section 3 letter a.**

**Section 4, Letter a, 5<sup>th</sup> Bullet: Add Charter & Ordinance before meeting.**

**Section 6, Letter a: Add bullet: Deferred to April's meeting.**

**Moved By: Megan Staczek**

**Seconded by: Steve Ross**

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

2. Lighting Ordinance Update.

a. Feedback from 3/15/26 Charter & Ordinance Committee Meeting.

- Rose Mary Hoy reported on the 3/15/26 Charter & Ordinance Committee meeting attended by herself, Frank Conklin, and George Stone.
- The Committee was supportive and emphasized the need to balance safety and security with DarkSky goal.
- The Committee requested a review of the current lighting ordinance and a report on compliance.
  - Rose Mary Hoy will provide Channel Pointe HOA dark sky language to the Committee.
  - Streetlight inconsistencies were discussed; noted as a separate issue.

- Natalie Magdeburger requested materials for a future Message from the Mayor highlighting economic and energy-saving benefits.
  - Megan Staczek raised concerns regarding continuous lighting in new homes; follow-up to be conducted.
- b. Next Steps
- Next Charter & Ordinance meeting: April 10, 2026.
  - An additional meeting is anticipated mid-May.
  - Draft ordinance to be reviewed by the committee prior to submission
3. DarkSky Activity Plan for 2026.
- a. Review & Discuss.
- Earth Day: April 25<sup>th</sup>.
    - Rose Mary Hoy and her husband will set up the table display.
  - International DarkSky Week: April 13-20.
    - Rose Mary Hoy will have a blog written to post on the website and Facebook.
  - Town Bonfire: July 1st.
    - Megan Staczek, George Stone, Steve Ross, and Rose Mary Hoy will donate items to make a basket for the Raffle.
    - George Stone suggested using the Globe at Night Initiative as a tool at the bonfire to encourage people to get involved with the science portion.
    - Rose Mary Hoy thought it might be a useful tool to do at the Marine Science Camp as well.
    - Use of stargazing apps again this year.
  - Marine Science Camps: Weeks of 7/13, 7/27, and 8/25.
    - Megan Staczek advises that this is an opportunity to be educational and fun with the kids. Talk to them about the impacts on nature and animals.
    - Megan Staczek cannot connect with the director at the camp. Rose Mary Hoy will check with Natalie Magdeburger or Erin Ellinger.
  - Fl Yach Club Midnight Kayak: On 6/21 and 8/25.
    - Steve Ross advised he doesn't have an update just the potential dates. He will get more specifics at their board meeting in May and will advise.
  - Discussion on purchasing pins, shirts, and other paraphernalia from DarkSky, George Stone will look into this.
  - DarkSky Symposium: Date to be determined.
    - The committee needs to discuss and come up with topics including what the committee has accomplished and are currently working towards. Include Fenwick Hardware again, the police department, Channel Pointe, and including the Environmental Committee.
    - Rose Mary Hoy requests all ideas sent to her; she will collect and send back out to the committee for review.

4. Update on Resources in Development.
  - a. Resource for Public Works.
    - George Stone advised he has not been in town or the opportunity to reach out with Mike Locke is currently on hold.
  - b. DarkSky Committee Page on Town Website.
    - George Stone has contacted Kathy Grab to initiate changes on the DarkSky webpage. He sent her the file. They will meet to review soon.
5. Miscellaneous Updates.
  - a. Message from the Mayor March 2026 (DarkSky Committee Update).
    - Natalie Magdeburger specifically included an update of the DarkSky Committee, referencing their participation in Earth Day and reviewing the lighting ordinance. She included a visual and talked about light pollution and shielding.
  - b. International DarkSky Week (April 13-20).
    - Included above.
  - c. Rehoboth Lighting Ordinance.
    - Rose Mary Hoy met with the leader of the Rehoboth lighting ordinance. She sent their draft documents to review.
6. Old Business.
  - a. Rose Mary Hoy shared concerns from DarkSky International regarding emerging technologies impacting night skies, including satellite developments.
    - DarkSky International asks that people voice their opinions on this to the FCC.
7. New Business.
  - a. Delmarva Power
    - Natalie Magdeburger reported that Delmarva Power is planning upgrades and developing dark sky-compliant streetlighting.
8. Public Participation.
  - a. None.
9. Future Meeting Date.
  - a. May 6, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
10. Adjourn

**Motion: To Adjourn at 11:32 a.m.**

**Moved by: George Stone**

**Seconded by: Steve Ross**

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**