

TIDE COMMITTEE
July 2, 2025
3:00 p.m.
Edisto Beach Town Hall

Minutes

Present: Gary Cantrell, Chair; Edye Graves, Vice-Chair; Lynne Grout, Ron Johnson, Camille Lemon, Lisa White, Members

Staff Present: Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, and Municipal Clerk Donna Rizer

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cantrell at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Johnson moved to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2025, TIDE Committee meeting. Ms. Grout seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Town Administrator Updates

Mr. Aakhus reported on the following items:

- New beach mats have been installed.
- Beach Access 32 boardwalk repair work has been completed.
- Rip Current Signs (15) have been installed. This is Phase 1 of the installation; signs will be installed at the remaining beach accesses soon. This pilot program links users to the National Weather Service website where they can view a map with the predicted rip current risk levels. Mr. Aakhus reported that the program has been well received and requested further feedback from users.
- The installation of marine ropes at the beach accesses is in progress.
- The Jungle Shores Drive Bike Path project will begin soon.

New Business/Open Discussion

A. Suggested Enhancements for Town Parks

1. Butterfly Garden at Burley L. Lyons Park

Committee members described butterfly gardens established by local homeowners, the variety of flowers that support butterfly nesting, and the essential water sources needed for their habitats. It was noted that Burley L. Lyons Park lacks a freshwater source. For this reason, the committee proposed that Jungle Road Park, which does have freshwater available, would offer a better environment for a butterfly garden. Mr. Aakhus suggested that the TIDE committee may want to partner with KEB, as that organization may have volunteers available to maintain a butterfly garden. There being interest from the committee in the butterfly garden, Ms. Lemon made

a motion that the committee should gather more information on this idea. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graves and was approved unanimously.

2. Osprey Platform at Burley L. Lyons Park

The idea of building an osprey platform at Burley L. Lyons Park was discussed. Mr. Cantrell mentioned an e-mail received by Mr. Aakhus, written by Mr. Stuart Tyler (708 Jungle Road), in support of an osprey nesting platform and a butterfly garden at Burley L. Lyons Park. Mr. Tyler noted that he enjoys watching the osprey dive for fish, and that a platform may encourage their continued presence. There being interest from the committee in the osprey platform, Ms. Graves made a motion that the committee should investigate the matter further. The motion was seconded by Ms. White and was approved unanimously.

3. Swing for Older Children

Mr. Cantrell noted that there are no swings at any of the Town's parks. A discussion was held about adding swings to Jungle Road Park or Bay Creek Park. While there was interest from the committee, members noted the cost and liability of adding swings to the parks. No action was taken on the matter.

B. KEB Meeting Information

Mr. Cantrell attended the June 30, 2025, meeting of Keep Edisto Beautiful.

He indicated the next KEB Meeting will be held August 14, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

The KEB Beach Sweep will be held September 20, 2025. The KEB Beach Access Adoption list showed less than half of the accesses adopted. Several TIDE Committee members added their names to the adoption list. Recycling was discussed; the committee indicated we may need a sturdier collection bin for aluminum cans at the accesses, as Ms. Graves noted a photograph of the collection bins having been blown over. Mr. Aakhus mentioned the recycling (pelican) magnets, and Mr. Cantrell suggested we order more of the magnets to be distributed to local rental companies.

C. Speed Limit Signs on Jungle Shores Drive

Mr. Johnson expressed his appreciation for the electronic speed sign on Jungle Shores Drive. Mr. Aakhus noted the sign may be moved to different locations, depending on community feedback. Speed limits were discussed, especially those on unpaved roads. Mr. Aakhus noted that while the Town can set ordinances regarding speed limits on Town-owned roads, most roads are owned by DOT. Mr. Aakhus suggested consistency regarding speed limits. It was also requested that the Town add speed limit signs to Jungle Shores Drive. Mr. Aakhus stated he would review the request.

As the Jungle Shores Bike Path Project is set to begin, signage to redirect bike path users from Jungle Road to Jungle Shores Drive was discussed.

D. Grass Cutting

The committee asked that crews blowing grass clippings do so away from the roadway.

E. Trash Can Rollout

It was noted that residents could request additional trash cans if needed.

During Open Discussion, a point was raised regarding the yellow pavement markings along Palmetto Boulevard. The yellow-painted curbs along Palmetto Boulevard, especially those near beach accesses, seem to have faded. Noting that safety is paramount, the committee suggested the Town look into repainting those curbs. Mr. Aakhus mentioned that while this would not be a DOT responsibility, the Town will consider addressing the issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Lemon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. White seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

APPROVED BY TIDE COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donna Rizer", is written over a horizontal line.

Donna Rizer, Municipal Clerk

August 6, 2025