

ATAX Board Meeting  
May 1, 2014

**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH  
ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
May 1, 2014  
5:00 p.m.**

Town of Edisto Beach  
Town Hall  
2414 Murray Street  
Edisto Beach SC 29438

Present: Jane Morrow, Vice Chairperson, Matthew Kizer, Walton Salley, Lisa White.

Absent: Iddy Andrews, Chairperson (out of town), Molly Watkins (out of town), Charlie Vincent (excused).

**Call to Order:** Vice Chairperson Jane Morrow called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**New Business:**

Town of Edisto Beach, Bell Property Annual Bond Debt, \$50,000 – Iris Hill, Town Administrator, presented the application on behalf of the Town of Edisto Beach. The Town is asking for \$50,000 in ATAX funds to retire a general obligation bond authorized through referendum, for the purpose of purchasing property commonly referred to as the Bell Property, but recently renamed as Bay Creek Park. This request is to pay a portion of the interest debt service on the bonds. Lisa White moved to approve the Town's request. Matthew Kizer seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Edisto Island Open Land Trust, Tomato Open Golf Tournament and Auction, \$2,500 – John Girault, Executive Director of the Edisto Island Open Land Trust presented the application. The two-day event will be held June 20 – June 21, 2014. The cocktail party and auction will be Friday night and the golf tournament will be Saturday. There was a discussion about the possibility of moving the golf tournament to a shoulder season weekend. Mr. Girault said that if the high school tournament is tabled a significant number of times, the EIOLT Board may consider moving the Tomato Open to that weekend (1<sup>st</sup> weekend in April). Matthew Kizer moved to approve the request of \$2,500, seconded by Walton Salley. Lisa White voiced her concern over the timing of the event and the Board reiterated the need for more activities during the shoulder season. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Town of Edisto Beach, Highway 174 Litter Removal, \$17,700 – Town Administrator Iris Hill presented the application. Commitments have been received by area companies and non-profits totaling \$5,600, which would reduce the amount needed from the ATAX fund. Some pledges are still outstanding, which would reduce the amount further. Some of the companies/nonprofits that have pledged funds to date are: Edisto Island Open Land Trust, Edisto Island Preservation Alliance, the Chamber of Commerce, the Property Owners' Association, Edisto Island Community Association Wyndham Ownership, Kapp Lyons Realty, Huffines Company, Whaley's, McConkey's, PoPigs BoBQ, Pressley's at the Marina, Andy Cook, CPA, the Edisto News, and private donors. There has been confusion, based on what TERC has told the Town, concerning whether or not this is an applicable ATAX expense. Matthew Kizer asked if the Town is currently responsible for litter pickup from the McKinley Washington Bridge to the causeway. Administrator Hill said no one was doing it at this time.

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Mr. Kizer suggested asking the businesses along 174 to take responsibility for the cost. Administrator Hill said that some Council members had been asking those businesses to donate. Tommy Mann asked to address the Board with some background on the issue. Wyndham and the Town partnered to pay for the litter pickup at one time. When Wyndham dropped out, the Town funded it for \$120,000 (total over the years). None of the area in the proposed litter pickup zone is in the incorporated limits of the Town of Edisto Beach. Mr. Mann is concerned that the last time the litter pickup was addressed the Town agreed to do it on a match basis and was done from the Hospitality. A few years ago, the Town Council asked members of the TERC to come to Edisto and answer some questions, one of them being litter control. "The TERC Committee, if you listen to that cd, they didn't waiver. They said it is never appropriate to do it. It would be more appropriate to do it out of Hospitality." Mr. Mann said that if the ATAX Board and Council approved the request to fund litter control from ATAX funds, and it is on the TERC agenda, it will be protested. Mr. Mann said that the Board should look at the Corridor Management Plan for Scenic Byways, a copy of which is located at Town Hall. Mr. Kizer asked if anyone had approached Colleton or Charleston County ATAX Board. Administrator Hill said it was her understanding that they had been approached them in the past but were unwilling to commit to funding to the project. Matthew Kizer moved to approve the Town's request at a reduced amount to match the amount the Town receives from businesses, churches and individuals up to \$10,000. Walton Salley seconded the motion. Lisa White relayed her concerns that the project has not been thought out well and has been voted down previously. Vice Chairperson Morrow called for a vote and the motion passed 3 – 1 with Lisa White dissenting.

Lisa White left the meeting, meaning there was no longer a quorum present.

Edisto Chamber of Commerce, The Edisto Beach Music and Shag Fest, \$5,500 – Dan Carter, Chamber Director, presented the application. Event organizer Darrin Moore was also in attendance. The event will be held once again at Bay Creek Park. Mr. Carter provided an outline of where the advertising money would be spent if the ATAX Board awarded it to the Chamber. Vice Chairperson Jane Morrow recused herself from the vote since she currently serves on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Matthew Kizer moved to approve the application in the full amount of \$5,500. Walton Salley seconded the motion. The motion was approved 2 – 0, without a quorum present.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Matthew Kizer moved to approve the minutes of the Special ATAX Board Meeting held on April 3, 2014. Jane Morrow seconded the motion, which was approved 3 – 0, without a quorum present.

### **ATAX Fund Balance:**

Matthew Kizer moved to approve the ATAX fund balance of \$136,063.34, seconded by Jane Morrow. The motion passed 3 – 0, without a quorum present.

### **Other New Business:**

The term of Iddy Andrews, At-Large Member, will expire on August 1, 2014. She is eligible to apply for another term.

The term of Lisa White, Hospitality Sector Member, will expire on August 1, 2014. She is not eligible to apply for another term.

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**Adjourn:**

Matthew Kizer moved to adjourn the meeting. Jane Morrow seconded the motion, which passed 3 – 0 without a quorum present.

*The media/public was informed of the date, place and time of the meeting on Friday, April 25, 2014.*

Approved by the ATAX Board

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June 3, 2014