

**JICANet Update**  
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**May 21, 2016**

*Prior Updates can be found on our website at [www.jekyllcitizens.org](http://www.jekyllcitizens.org)*

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**JICA May Meeting Minutes -**

JEKYLL ISLAND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

May 2, 2016

7:00 p.m. at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church

Board members present were Franklin Duncan, Bonnie Newell, Beverly Hopkins, Jerry Locascio, Dave Buisson, Jim Reed and Ron Franke. Ted Rice, Ame Ivanov were absent

Franklin opened the meeting at 7:00 with announcements:

- This is the last meeting until the fall. The next JICA meeting will be Monday, September 12th at 7:00 pm at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church. Program information will be announced later.
- Bonnie Newell announced that the Pottery Guild is planning an open studio on May 11th from 5-8 and they are looking at holding short summer workshops for island residents and employees. There will be a nominal fee for the workshops.
- Nancy Kring Rowan reminded everyone that the annual Turtle Crawl Triathlon and festival is May 13-15. There will be road closures on Saturday morning and Sunday morning. Roads and some parking within the Beach Village will be blocked off on Saturday. They do still need volunteers and if you are interested you can sign up via the Jekyll Island Facebook page under my events. The beach side bike path will also be closed from Tortuga Jack's to the convention center from 12:01am -1:30 pm on Saturday the 14th. (JIA sent out a detailed list of the closures.)
- Thank you to Eleanor Daniel for providing the refreshments tonight.

Minutes: April minutes were approved.

**Reports:**

**Membership:** Megan reported that as of the day of the meeting there are 288 paid members. Membership forms are available at the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron reported for Ame the balance as of April 19th was of \$21,302.95. The report was approved.

**Island Introductions:** JoAnn Buisson continues to work with the real estate companies to identify new residents. The Lions club has added a flyer to the newcomer packet. If you know of anyone who is new to the island, please get that information to JoAnn.

**Old Business:** None reported

New Business: None reported

Member comments: None

Franklin opened the floor for member input and concerns. The Board is looking for possible speakers or topics for the fall as well as concerns from the community.

- Jean Poleszak asked if the JICA board and association members plan to support the letter sent by the men's golf group to Jones Hooks regarding possible changes at Oleander. The men's group does not support the possible removal of 9 holes of golf from Oleander from use. In general the golfers are against it. There is growing concern that if this idea moves forward JIA may take the land and open it up for development. Members of the audience urged the board to write a letter in support of the men's golf group letter. The JICA board will discuss this at their meeting in mid-May. Jim Reed added some additional detail about the letter that went to Jones. There is a budget item in the 5-year budget to "refurbish" Oleander. What is unknown is when this item may actually move forward. All the other golf associations have been asked to write letters as well. Jones Hooks has denied in several forums and in writing that there is any plan to remove the Oleander holes from play. There is a plan to bring in a consulting firm that specializes in finding ways to increase use of the courses. Jean added that people really need to stay on top of this topic.
- Can anything be done about the lack of maintenance around the power lines on the island? It has been many years since major maintenance was done to our power lines. There are vines growing on them or branches that hang close to the lines. There was a recent tree fire between the residences on Old Plantation and the greenhouses that was caused by a transformer that arced when a branch came into contact.
- When will roads be repaired? Bond, Magee and Old Plantation are getting worse. There are also problems on Lanier and Ogden. What will it take to get action from the JIA? Franklin added that we have been trying to get the message across to Glynn County to help get funds for paving. He pushed with them the fact that Jekyll pays quite a bit in property taxes to Glynn County. They did pave Shell and Capt. Wylly with money that came from the state.
- Is there any update on possible flood insurance change? Ron Franke attended a recent meeting put on by Glynn County and FEMA that gave a first glimpse of the new federal flood maps. The good news is that the elevation on Jekyll was re-surveyed and the flood reach was recalibrated. The old reach was 13 feet but the new reach will be 9 feet, which means many houses will be in a better zone. The official maps will be out in July 2017. Glynn County Commissioner Dale Provenzano was present and added some comments that FEMA is now looking more at tidal surge and how storm waters affect the land rather than just how high the land is above sea level. Your physical location on the island matters. Those on the ocean would be more impacted than those on the river side of the island. Also if you do not like the rating you are given you will have 90 days to appeal. If you pay your flood insurance in early 2017 you should receive a rebate after July 2017. In 2017, your insurance agents should be receiving the new maps and will be able to advise you on your property's status.
- Bonnie mentioned her concern about how JIA handled the pending contract with the Mandala group and the use of that land for another hotel. The recent Whiskey, Wine and Wildlife event caused the blockage of the entire Beach Village. If the last parcel were used for green space and parking we could host larger events with less impact on the businesses in the Village.
- Why do citizens have so little input with the JIA? What can we do to change that? We are not permitted to ask questions at the JIA board meetings. Wasn't there a citizen's

advisory group in the past that could liaison to the JIA? Jean Poleszak gave additional information about the advisory group. Jean was in the first group. It is part of the law for the existence of the Jekyll Island Authority and is still in effect. However there has not been a group for many years, not since Gov. Purdue. The members of the group are appointed by the Governor's office rather than elected. The law also defines how the members should be chosen (location, resident or not). No resident is permitted on the JIA Board because it is considered a conflict of interest. The only way to get this reintroduced would be to force JIA to obey the law that created it. The residents are largely ignored in any decision making, even after we are asked our opinion. Pat Overholt commented that the consensus of the feedback on the parcel was that the Village needed more parking and more handicap parking and JIA is ignoring all of that.

- Is a study being done to confirm that the island infrastructure is adequate for the needs of the new construction, for example water and sewer? Franklin asked if anyone was experiencing any issues with water pressure. Franklin indicated he was and several others in the audience agreed.
- Can we get an update on the Mosaic project and how the JICA donation will be used? We will try to get that information.
- Jekyll's tennis courts are in declining condition since the full-time pro left. What can we do to get better maintenance? Steve Newell added some comments. When Pete retired the JIA decided to use part-time staff for the tennis center. He feels the part time employees have less incentive to keep the courts up. Consequently the courts are now getting a bad reputation around the state. He was told that JIA has promised that a full-time person will be hired in the 2017 fiscal year. If this does not occur, people will need to speak up to the JIA.
- Darrel Davidson asked about getting a community center. How can we make that happen? If a consortium of the organizations on the island, including JIA, JICA, JIAA and the civic groups worked together there would be meeting space that could be used by all. In the past rooms were used in the old convention center. Given that the current center seems to be underutilized on some days of the week, can we negotiate something with the convention center management? Groups sometimes find it difficult to get meeting space when they need it and the size needed and the cost of some spaces is prohibitive. Many communities in the country do have community centers and that is something we could really use on Jekyll.
- What about the amphitheater? It is somewhere on the JIA wish list.
- Does anyone know what the exact plan is for the use of the bond money for the rebuilding of the north end of the island? So far it appears only a study is being done.
- Pat Overholt commented that there was a recent change in postal delivery people and now they are getting different people at different times and they often get mail that is not theirs. She recently got mail for 4 different people. Is there anything JICA can do to relay this frustration to the Brunswick postal officials? Megan suggested we wait to insure the post office is moved first. Beverly added that she saw that work is actively going on in the old Christmas shop location to get it ready for the post office.

Additional items from the notecards collected:

- When Waste Management picks up yard debris residents end up with deep gouges in their yard. What can be done to prevent that?

Franklin thanked everyone for attending and speaking up. The JICA board will be reviewing all this information at our May board meeting on May 16th. Have a wonderful summer!

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Hopkins, JICA Secretary

### **Movie on the Green - Saturday, May 28**

Come and enjoy the outdoor movie series as it starts on Saturday, May 28 on the Village Green in the Beach Village. The movie starts at 8:30p. Bring your blankets & chairs at this free event.

### **Faith Chapel Prayer Service - Sunday, May 29**

A Prayer Service will be held at Faith Chapel in the Historic District starting at 9am. It is open to all and will be led by Rev. Yarborough of St. Richard's of Chichester Episcopal Church.

### **Previously Announced Events -**

#### **JIAA June Exhibition -**

Beginning June 1st through June 30th, the Jekyll Island Arts Association will be displaying the moving photography of Donna MacPherson of St. Simons Island and the pottery of Debbie Craig, also a St. Simons resident, along with the work of students Debbie Dowdy, Marilyn Eigen and Hannah Roberts displayed at the Goodyear Cottage in the Jekyll Island historic district. A reception for the artists will be held on Sunday, June 5th from 1 – 3 p.m. at the Goodyear Cottage. The Cottage's hours are Monday through Friday – 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., weekends – 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission to the Goodyear Cottage is free to the public.

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive - Thursday, June 2**

Our next American Red Cross blood drive will be held Thursday, June 2 at the Jekyll Presbyterian Church from 1:00 until 6:00 pm. Be a hero and save lives! To avoid waiting in line, call Howard Sculthorpe at 635-2866 or go on line at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to make an appointment. To make your visit to the blood drive shorter, visit [redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://redcrossblood.org/rapidpass) on the day of your donation to input your personal information.

#### **Lions Club Telephone Books -**

The 2016-2017 edition of the Lions Club Telephone Directory are out. They have held the price at \$7. Copies can be purchased at the Ameris Bank, Realty companies and various stores on the island. You can also contact any Lions Club member to purchase a copy.

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And that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds, and Tuesday, May 24, is Primary Election Day, do not forget to vote!

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