**Charleston Town Planning Commission**

**Meeting Minutes for Public Meeting on March 14, 2024**

THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Members Attending: John Kellogg, Chair; Hap Eliason, Member; Tom Wagner, Member; Peter Moskovites, Ex Officio; Tim Jenness, Ex Officio; Terry Rollins; Ex Officio.

Members Unable to Attend: Blair Moulton, Clerk; Eleanor Leger, Member.

Also Attending: Teri Gray, Town Clerk; Colleen Kellogg, Assistant Town Clerk

The meeting, held at the Town Office, was called to order at 5:32 pm by Mr. Kellogg. Minutes of the December 14, 2023 Planning Commission meeting were read. A motion was made by Mr. Jenness to accept the minutes and seconded by Mr. Wagner. The motion passed unanimously.

Under Old Business, Mr. Kellogg asked for a general discussion of how the upcoming solar eclipse might impact the town in areas such as roads, emergency services, and other factors. The ensuring discussion underscored the uncertainties of the event (i.e. the number of people traveling to the area and the possible impacts) and concluded that it might be prudent to open the town’s Emergency Operating Center (EOC) that connects the Selectboard, Fire Department, Elementary School and others. Mr. Kellogg concluded the discussion by stating that the Planning Commission will ask the Selectboard to consider opening the town’s EOC prior to and during the event.

Also under Old Business, Mr. Kellogg reminded Commission members of the annual process of updating the town’s Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP), which is readopted by the Selectboard by May 1st each year. A draft was distributed for review, and updates or suggestions can be sent to the Clerk’s Office.

On a related topic, the periodic renewal of the townwide All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, which next renews in 2026, he asked for continuing updates from all attending the meeting on any steps the town is taking to strengthen its capacity to respond and manage emergencies such as adverse weather events, etc. Both the LEMP and Hazard Mitigation Plans are required by the state as a precursor to many state and federal grant opportunities.

Seeing no New Business on the agenda and no other business before the Commission, Mr. Kellogg asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Mr. Eliason and seconded by Mr. Wagner. The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 pm. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held at 5:30 pm on June 13, 2024 at the Town Office.

Minutes Accepted on June 13, 2024 by:

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John Kellogg, Chair Blair Moulton, Clerk