



STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Wednesday, May 7, 2025
3:00 – 5:00pm

Agenda

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| I. Administration | (5 Minutes) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Call to Orderb. Approval of the Agendac. Approval of Absenteesd. Approval of Minutes | |
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| II. Old Business | (60 Minutes) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. SP Feedback - Review and Cross-check:
Numbers: 8, 39, 45, 50-54, 65, 68, 69, 72, 86, 101b. 2025 Speakers:
Feb. 5: <i>Don Kirkman</i>, County Economic Development, (Retired)
Mar. 5: <i>Julie Anderson</i>, PKS Town Mgr.
April 2: <i>Samantha Darlington</i>, Southeast Prosperity Zone Planner for NC Commerce, Rural Planning Center, and
<i>Rod Kirik</i>, Economic Development Director for Carteret County
June 4: <i>Jimmie Beckom & Mike Lamar</i> – EVs
Aug. 6: <i>Bree Charron</i>, Water Quality Program Director, NC Coastal Federation
Oct. 1: <i>Sonny Cunningham</i>, Public Service Director
Nov. 5: FD/EMS/PD –TBD | |
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| III. New Business | (5 Minutes) |
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| IV. Liaison Updates | (20 Minutes) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. BOC Updateb. Planning Board Updatec. AC Updated. Town Staff Update | |
| <div>Commissioner Ferguson</div> <div>Member Powers</div> <div>AC Member Holland</div> <div>Town Manager Anderson</div> | |
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| V. Meeting Conclusion | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Next SPC Meeting: June 4, 2025 @3:00 pmb. Adjournment | |

**Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2025**

I. Administration

Call to Order

Chairwoman Jeanne Biddle called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance.

Members Present: Mayor John Brodman, Christine Voss (online), Michael Lamar, Michelle Powers, Cindy Schersching, Suzanne Wheatcraft (online), Jimmy Beckom, and Commissioner John Ferguson.

Members Absent: No members were absent

Staff Present: Town Manager Julie Anderson and Town Clerk Missy Shine

Others Present: Appearance Commission Liaison Penny Holland

Approval of Agenda

Member Powers made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Member Lamar. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Absentees

Member Powers made a motion to approve the absence of Suzanne Wheatcraft with a second from Member Voss and passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Mayor Brodman made a motion to accept the March meeting minutes with a second from Member Powers. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Old Business

a. 2025 Speakers

Feb. 5: *Don Kirkman*, County Economic Development, (Retired)

Mar. 5: *Julie Anderson*, PKS Town Mgr.

April 2: *Samantha Darlington*, Southeast Prosperity Zone Planner for NC Commerce, Rural Planning Center, and *Rod Kirik*, Economic Development Director for Carteret County

June 4: *Jimmie Beckom & Mike Lamar* – EVs

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b. Snapshot of PKS

Member Schersching provided an update on the survey work. She noted that an old survey from 2013 was found and distributed for review. Member Schersching explained that the current approach is focused on answering "Who are we?" and what Pine Knoll Shores looks like, which is different from a more strategic approach.

Member Schersching interpreted the question operationally as demographics, behaviors, and attitudes. She acknowledged there were challenges with this approach and her personal workload. Cindy offered to resign from leading this effort but remain on the committee. She suggested determining what specific questions need to be answered, noting her original understanding was to look at links with the strategic plan.

Member Schersching recommended having fresh eyes take over leadership of the survey work. She emphasized the importance of having a respectable, defensible survey that provides useful answers.

Chair Biddle interjected that she had previously spoken with Member Schersching and did not want her to leave the committee but understood her desire to step back from survey leadership. Chair Biddle raised the issue of potential survey fatigue and whether the Strategic Planning Committee or Successful Aging group should conduct a survey. There was discussion about possibly merging surveys.

Member Schersching indicated she would wait until next year to do a Council on Aging survey if the strategic planning survey is completed by year-end. She acknowledged the strategic planning survey takes priority.

There was further discussion about survey design, avoiding duplication, and ensuring questions provide useful data for strategic planning. Concerns were raised about some proposed questions not being directly relevant to strategic planning needs.

Julie Anderson, Town Manager, suggested using the county's online appeal process for property tax assessments as a model for efficient data collection. The group discussed potentially publishing strategic planning survey questions monthly in the town newsletter to gather ongoing input.

Chair Biddle suggested that Member Schersching take over the survey for the Council on Successful Aging, allowing the Strategic Planning Committee to focus on the strategic element of planning. This would avoid duplication of surveys and enable the committee to potentially use information gathered from that survey.

The committee agreed to revisit the questions for the Shoreline at the next meeting in May. They will look at prioritizing and rewording questions as needed.

Speakers of the Month, Samantha Darlington, Southeast Prosperity Zone Planner for NC Commerce, Rural Planning Center and Rod Kirik, Economic Development Director for Carteret County

Samantha Darlington, the Southeast Prosperity Zone Planner for NC Commerce, Rural Planning Center and Ron Kirik, the Economic Development Director for Carteret County, provided a comprehensive update on various regional and state initiatives. This included discussion on population trends, economic shifts, and infrastructure projects that could impact Pine Knoll Shores.

Samantha reviewed North Carolina's population growth, highlighted urbanization trends, and emphasized the importance of aligning community values with economic development. She also offered insight into legislative priorities and grant opportunities for the Town to consider as part of its strategic planning process. Samantha emphasized the criticality of marketing the town's unique attributes as a regional advantage that can bolster tourism and economic diversification. She mentioned the state's ongoing efforts in workforce development, emphasizing apprenticeship programs and entrepreneurial support as noteworthy initiatives for local governments to leverage.

Chair Biddle acknowledged the importance of having experts such as Samantha and Ron provide insights at SPC meetings and encouraged further engagement with subject matter experts to address the town's strategic goals. It was noted that securing knowledgeable speakers who can bring valuable perspectives on the town's future challenges and opportunities is a priority for the SPC.

III. New Business

10 Best Practices for Effective Strategic Planning

IV. Liaison Updates

a. Board of Commissioners: Commissioner John Ferguson

- *They discussed beach and water funds, with Julie Anderson working on next steps.

- *The general fund budget will be addressed at the second April meeting.

- *They approved purchase of a new fire truck pumper for \$843,000, which saved about \$100,000 and reduced lead time compared to ordering a custom truck.

b. Planning Board: Michelle Powers

- *Several subcommittees are actively working, including UDO updates, the CAMA land Use Plan update, and Pedestrian Master Plan.

- *The CAMA plan update is targeted for completion next year.

- *There was discussion of reviewing fence regulations.

- *Chair Triplett is temporarily away for medical reasons, with Vice Chair Powers helping in his absence.

c. Appearance Commission: Penny Holland

*They planted a tree for Arbor Day near the community garden.

*They received a presentation from Carteret-Craven Electric on tree trimming practices and rationale.

*There was discussion about communicating the reasons for tree trimming to address resident concerns.

d. Town Update: Town Manager Julie Anderson

*A new Fire and EMS Chief, Jerry Bowden, started about a month ago and is doing well.

*She gave a detailed explanation of the recent property tax revaluation process and impacts:

*Non-oceanfront property values increased about 85-99%

*Total town property value increased from about \$1.2 billion to over \$2 billion

*The tax rate will likely decrease to partially offset increased values

*The town budget process will determine final revenue needs and tax rate

*Appeals can be filed but require supporting documentation

*Town staff will assist residents with the online appeal process if needed

*She emphasized the revaluation reflects market values and tax bills will not necessarily double

*The county did a full property inspection in late 2021/early 2022 for the first time in over 20 years

*She cautioned that appealing could potentially result in higher assessments if unreported improvements are discovered

V. Meeting Conclusion

Next Meeting

The next Strategic Planning Committee meeting was confirmed for May 7, 2025, at 3:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Commissioner Ferguson to adjourn the meeting. Member Beckom seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 PM.

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

The following pages constitute feedback statements received from Pine Knoll Shores committees, boards, town staff, and community groups in response to a Strategic Plan presentation with the request to identify areas within the strategic plan which may be improved upon and/or to identify gaps within the plan to be addressed or added.

Many of the statements are considered as recommendations rather than strategic in scope. However, all statements bring value and added communication opportunities for improvement.

Statements have been recorded as received so as not to take away or add incorrect meaning.

The Strategic Planning Committee is undertaking a cross-check of statements that may currently exist within the Strategic Plan. Statements identified as strategic in scope are (highlighted in yellow) and will be reviewed for inclusion in a 2025 Strategic Plan addendum.

Jeanne Biddle
SPC Chair

1. Interactive website for the Town
2. Proposed Interactive Website for input recommendations identifying Wants/Needs & Improvements.
3. Need for clarity and logic in ordinances to improve understanding
4. There needs to be consequences for not following ordinance.
5. Acting first and then request variance.
6. Communication in preparation for as well as post disaster
7. Evacuation methods need enhancement such as sirens or other means.
8. Need for better interorganizational communication
9. In nurturing a sense of community, it would be helpful if all stakeholders were on the same page, from the top down, reading from the same book (or UDO) so to speak. Everyone needs a clear understanding of who we are, our special resources and challenges, our goals and how we achieve them.
10. Perhaps Strategic Planning could develop and implement effective means of pushing the information out, potentially starting even before a prospective buyer chooses PKS, and building on that throughout residency, effectively nurturing, growing and improving our sense of community.

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

11. Tree Ordinance: No document can adequately address or accommodate all tree growth arrangements. Such requirements do not always provide acceptable improvements that restrict property use appropriate to the homeowner's financial investment. At times, regulations can't always improve every yard. Hence a need will always exist for Bd. Of Adjustment review/actions.
12. Consider the addition of lifeguards at strategic points along the beachfront or increasing the number of patrols on the beach during the summer season.
13. Add public parks, trails, public parking, and other recreational facilities on the town's existing website map.
14. Add a section to the website for VISITORS; link the map of public beach access, as well as the limitations for existing road speeds, and other safety-related information such as the phone number of the duty officer, how to report incidents, etc.
15. Solicit input for activities such as PARC's survey to gauge the interest in activities and events that might be considered.
16. Publish the dates/times of public maintenance activity (road closures, road re-surfacing, etc.) on the town website and push the locations to the town website map.
17. Link the PARC events that require registration from the Town Calendar to the website for registration. For example, neither the Pickleball tournament nor the Turkey Trot have links to RunSignup.
18. Consider adding a "bike lane" to 58 for safety of recreational road bikers.
19. For the town calendar, the activities such as Music in the Park or Turkey Trot, should have a link to the location on a map, not just the name of the location.
20. Given that PKS is likely to grow, consider publishing a map of zoning limitations (single family residence, multi-family residence, commercial, recreational, government) so we can assess how we can best utilize undeveloped publicly owned property for new recreation center, or other improvements.
21. Secure a means for committee members/citizens to video conference in and participate in meetings. I gave up calling in – it doesn't work and is frustrating.
22. It would be wonderful to have some way for the east and west sides of town to be connected other than the road. If we could get from one side to the other without going on 58, it would eliminate the hassle to trying to get on 58 during summer months. Even if it was just for golf carts!
23. Allow at least LSV to drive on Hwy 58 as AB allows this, if not golf carts.
24. Probably are going to eventually need a stop light at Mimosa/Hwy 58 - there were 9 cars waiting to turn left the other day and this is becoming a common occurrence.

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

25. Like the idea of doing something with the lots on Yaupon perhaps a community center, pickleball courts & parking. Or could possibly sell those 2 lots and use revenue from sale to go toward a community center and pickleball courts at town hall.
26. Age old discussion but we need sidewalks on Mimosa and Oakleaf. There are too many pedestrians, strollers, wagons, dogs, bikes, kids walking and on bikes, and cars to not have sidewalks.
27. Consider an ongoing emphasis on environmental impact of plastics/trash on our beaches and all sea life. Awareness campaign and community engagement to expand Clean Sweep; implement community sweeps after heavy visitor seasons and especially after tropical storms and hurricanes.
28. Partner with the NC Aquarium and local university marine science, youth groups...for ongoing awareness of our community efforts impact on protecting marine life. Publicize for all to participate.
29. For homes along the Canal - Publicize plans for maintenance, such as dredging. Clarify Homeowners responsibility and Town's responsibility.
30. For the beachfront – provide a long-range plan to communicate beach replenishment, dune restoration and preventative measure for dune enhancement.
31. Volunteers: There are many talented people living in PKS. In a future survey, it would be great to know from those who wish to make known their expertise in urban planning, engineering, healthcare, public safety, community development, mapping, social media, art, etc. so we may tap them for their knowledge.
32. For Vacant Lot use consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Possible community boat trailer storage...could be profitable for Town as many boat owners pay local marinas annual trailer storage fees. b. Community garden- vegetable and flower c. Community center
33. additional crosswalks with pedestrian activated flashing lights connecting the sound side streets with the ocean side beach accesses. One spot was the crossing from Cedar Road to Pinewood Circle but there are probably a couple of other locations where safety could be improved by this installation. Before his retirement Brian Kramer did some checking with NCDOT about the possibility of financial assistance for crosswalks and reported back to the PB that there was some positive response. There's been no further discussion regarding this matter.
34. little regard from drivers with respect to the posted speed limit of 25 MPH, especially on Oakleaf.
35. The Town of Pine Knoll Shores is a designated sea turtle sanctuary.
36. All species of sea turtles that nest here are either threatened or endangered

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

37. The newly planted grasses and sand fencing do present impediments to both the sea turtles and the 70-plus volunteers who care for and monitor the nests.
38. Hatchlings need the ability to see the ocean in order to 'go home'. From time to time, some grass may have to be removed to afford access to hatchlings.
39. Reduction of beach-facing lighting, as hatchlings will go to the brightest light they see. All ocean facing lighting should be yellow, red, or shielded on the ocean facing side.
40. Fix the front of town hall. While garden club has maintained the Hereth garden, the rest of the front could really use some help. Sonny and his crew are so over extended that even though they are willing, they rarely have the time. We would suggest that someone be hired for a one-time cleanup – remove all the weeds and the sorely-looking juniper on left side, clean out the right side, put down landscaping paper, plant maybe 3 pink muhly grass in front. Either mulch with pine straw or put stone in. Once done, it would be easier to maintain. Same thing on right side, except no muhly grass.
41. Garden club keeps spending copious amounts of money on trees to honor deceased members only to have them die basically because they don't get watered. Perhaps using the area around the pond as a place to put these trees, keep them to dogwood and crepes, is an option, but only if irrigation is put in. New trees and shrubs need to be watered constantly for the first year. Drip irrigation could be run around the pond and use pond water to irrigate?
42. Crepe myrtles – these poor things look really bad. I know Sonny tries to keep mulch around them, but water is virtually nil. Garden club tries to cut back and reshape at least every 2 years. This is a major undertaking. Some look like they died this year. Maybe CAC could replace?
43. We used to have a street sweeper every quarter. Pine straw gathers in the road making it difficult to stay on the left as much as you can while walking. Maybe some kind of vacuum?
44. Parking is an issue for aquarium, especially on ~12 busiest days each year. They have used parking in our commercial area & shuttled folks, usually employees or volunteers-groups
45. Asked about the continued viability of the PKS Water system (What % of PKS water is used by Aquarium?)
46. Parking is an issue for aquarium, especially on ~12 busiest days each year. They have used parking in our commercial area & shuttled folks, usually employees or volunteers-groups
47. The aquarium benefits from PKS built and natural infrastructure
48. Installing 2 EV Level 2 charging stations which will be available during business hours

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

49. They acknowledged a very good collaborative relationship with PKS emergency services & public safety.
50. They suggested that aquarium representative be involved in long-term emergency planning.
51. Aquarium has capacity to run on generators for 7 days, can stretch to 10 days.
52. They are happy to provide their available space during extended power failure or other emergencies, as appropriate.
53. They have relatively large, open parking lots, some of high elevation, which could serve as a drop or transfer zone during flood or other emergencies.
54. They are interested in sharing/participating in trainings, as appropriate to both groups.
55. They have and plan to continue to participate in various Town events, such as Turkey Trot, K4W, etc.
56. They appreciate that we consider aquarium a part of our community and recognize their PKS volunteers
57. It would be very helpful for aquarium staff to have access to PKA ramps (Chris will bring to PKA)
58. They realize that both the aquarium and PKS are and will be dealing with impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.
59. Acknowledged losses trees and receding estuarine shoreline.
60. They expressed concerns that NC wants to conduct controlled burns along the ridges of Theo. Roosevelt Natural Area (Chris looking into this).
61. They wanted to know what PKS was doing to increase resiliency, especially to maintain our maritime forest canopy.
62. Aquarium and Town are distinct entities with no financial ties
63. PKS aquarium is considering a major renovation and possible (as feasible) expansion
64. Noted importance of ocean beach and estuary for tourism; they are also interested in sustaining town's natural resources.
65. Reiterated aquarium's dependency on PKS water supply
66. Noted importance of the natural setting within TNA and how this is facilitated by PKS land use & policies
67. Inquired about Town's wildlife policies; no current problems, but they realize the habitat provided by TNA.
68. Additional stormwater measures: dewater Fern Ct. with a discharge point. Also look at Loblolly Dr, Carob Ct, Oakleaf Dr and Magnolia Ct.
69. After Stormwater Phase 3 is finished we need to increase our pumping ability at both ends of the CC. Add a 6" mobile stormwater pump.

70. As the makeup of the Town changes, the new ownership at large may have different wants, needs, and priorities than have traditionally been the case and those views may result in changes in policy on any of these Strategic Areas. Although you can have growth without compromising regulations that possibility should still be understood.
71. Back to catastrophic event scenario and lessons from recent events in WNC! – need to really work out how we get back on our feet after a storm Cat 4/5 even a bad 3 really causes major damage to the Town - Feds will be AWOL scenario?
72. Capital Improvement Plan for Water to include raising the 150,000-gallon water tank, seek land for a 5th well site, and replace the trunk water main from the Aquarium to Willow.
73. Challenges and limitations to the extent of local government authority in emergencies: Have to go over SOE annually and make sure it is legal, and we have our bases covered
74. Challenges with evacuation corridors and transportation (ex: EVs): Great point and I've always said biggest issue is getting out of Carteret County! Look at FLA with Milton evac, Major interstates deadlocked. Carteret County only has 2 Hwys 70/58 - a 48-hour evacuation order is not enough time we need to do a longer evacuation order even if it is just PKS putting a 96hr on our SOE? Can we go above and beyond what the County is doing here?
75. Continually evaluate staffing levels. The Town is never going to get smaller therefore reduction in staff is not on the horizon. The growth of the area just since COVID has proven that. I-42 will make an even larger impact.
76. Disaster costs without recuperation - WNC is going to be the prime example and should be context of a lot of talk in all the Coastal communities!
77. Dune complexity should be protected. We should not allow pools oceanward of oceanfront homes. Oceanfront owners (many being investment properties i.e. rentals) have wants that are in opposition to the Town's goals. Not every house needs an access. CAMA just looks at the individual property's application, not at how many crosses over the dunes have taken place in a given distance.
78. Fiscal Year 25-26 will likely include a redundancy in salary for a Building Inspector as Jim plans for retirement.
79. From three newer employees who have come from a Craven County Town, another Carteret County municipality, and the County itself, PKS does a far superior job of communication and planning than any of those places. We communicate in multiple ways, people need to READ what is communicated. The output of communication is usually not the issue.
80. How to solve neighborhood wars? It appears no one talks to their neighbors anymore if there is a question or concern. The Town is sought out to be intermediary in issues that often could have been resolved earlier through neighborly communication. Neighbors needs to be receptive to such communication as well. Foster that sense of community and communication amongst the residents of PKS.

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81. In the PKS designated flood prone areas of Cedar to Juniper, south of Cypress, the Town has done a lot of work on stormwater mitigation. We should now have it so that redevelopment of the entire home or new construction on vacant lots in that area be built higher. Some level above adjacent grade using the structured foundation, not grading.
82. Install a fire pickup point at Reefstone.
83. ISO fire insurance certification threat - Town needs to plan for a 5th fireman (3 more paid) with loss of volunteers Town is facing the issue of loss of Roster numbers. Must maintain 15 and when volunteers retire out our roster will fail. One big thing here is we do not need just someone with a pulse? They need to have certifications already or be willing to work towards and obtain them.
84. Lack of consideration of diversity of demographics: Think the younger crowd just wants to be left alone? Pay their taxes and get services provided Water/Police/Fire/EMS/Attentive Town Hall – they are not retirees looking for something to do? They are caught up in “life” at the moment
85. Lack of resiliency of infrastructure, basic utilities, and communications. Hitting on infrastructure - PSB is solid? TH may flood, but its location in the woods may survive the winds? Communications again lessons from Ukraine war, WNC we need to get starlink in place one TH, one PSB, and a mini to take with us to alternate off island EOC. Basic utilities, unless the island can get the power lines buried you just have to write this off, we could go a month or more without utilities.
86. Lack of understanding damages from King Tides, Nor'easters, tropical weather, T-storms, etc.: We offer annual hurricane expos and push out information.
87. Ladder truck is currently an active threat to hurting our ISO rating. For new engine we need to keep in mind the wait times for building a new engine and not end up in same scenario we are currently in with the ladder.
88. Loss of interest in volunteerism as a worthwhile community investment: Fire/EMS volunteerism is a HUGE commitment in time and effort and being woke up all hours of the night and training! A lot of it the initial certifications and then ongoing monthly training
89. Objective 3 is non-negotiable. We must comply with all higher laws that impact other strategic areas too. It should not be an objective as it is a given.
90. Plan for road improvements, beach access repairs, stormwater maintenance/additions with identifiable mapping of project locations (year completed, etc.)
91. Qualified workforce limitations: Make sure we stay ahead of the 8ball with pay and benefits to attract the qualified individuals and keep the ones we have in place.
92. Reluctance of residents to evacuate due to lack of accessibility to re-enter: We let them re-enter when we have life hazards squared away – not changing
93. Shortages of qualified/certified/skilled professional talent: Paramedics, Police Officers, Building Inspectors, Govt Finance, etc. A Level 3 Building Inspector is not simply a unicorn anymore, its an invisible unicorn!

Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan Feedback 2024

94. STARLINK for communications – issues in Western NC have proven the need for better communication technology. One for TH, PSB and a mini one for alternative EOC
95. The beach is why people come to PKS. Water rescues and police patrols are a common occurrence. A wide enough beach is needed to perform these rescues and provide this level of citizen protection.
96. The canal and the sound are both public waterways yet there is not much in the Plan about these areas. Canal water studies, etc.
97. The equip/train/support objective is very much appreciated. We also need to realize in a catastrophic event maybe we identify points where we are basically doing the best we can? What are the Fire/EMS, Police, Public works, Town Admin staff's limitations? At what point are we overwhelmed? We will win in the end, but we are going to be in a long fight basically – think a rewording is needed, you cannot fully fund us to handle a CAT5 hurricane - maybe it is an entire objective in itself.
98. This can be tied in with folks failing to volunteer with the Town in whatever area... Fire/ EMS, garden club, etc. You have an aging population that cannot physically do as much and a younger population that'd rather pay taxes and not be bothered?
99. Threat: lack of expertise within the town to prevent and recover from natural disasters. You cannot prevent natural disasters! Through Florence we proved to be the most storm ready entity in the County and our communications were followed by non PKS homeowners. Goes back to preserving the level of qualified staff we have now. Hiring from OFF does not help much when there is no hurricane response experience.
100. Threat: Lack of planning and policy to protect vulnerable environmental assets. Not sure if they're just talking about trees and sand dunes here? But in the end this Island has been shaped by storms since it existed? There will be more pressing issues and higher priorities for money flow than the trees and sand dunes.
101. To protect utilities and help with a faster recovery ref catastrophic event utilities should be underground
102. We [staff] need to be better at promoting what we have done or do on a regular basis. The PD article about activity our law enforcement personnel face was a huge eye opener for so many people. There are countless examples of that across all departments but with a small staff and no dedicated Public Information Officer it is not widely done.
103. We need more catastrophic event talk. Paying attention to recent events in western NC – look at how DeSantis ran FLA with Milton? NC doesn't do this! We need to plan on being on our own – no funding for an unknown amount of time etc... step by step plan how we return to the island, who (officials) returns when, equipment, bridges down? Armageddon for the island basically.