



DRAFT

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES
ARI-TOURISM COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

*audio available in the Town Clerk's Office
Meetings are also available on YouTube*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Town Manager Francine Ramaglia called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. PRESENT

Committee members Josph Chammas, Darrin Swank, Simon Fernandez, Martin Holman, and Liza Holman; Town Manager Francine Ramaglia, Town Attorney Ruth Holmes, Town Clerk's Assistant Kathy Adler, and Town Planner Jim Fleischman were present.

Assistant Fire Marshal Chris Henry is present as guest speaker.

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Discussion of Public Safety and Emergency Response (Assistant Fire Marshal Chris Henry)

Assistant Fire Marshal Henry presents his first PowerPoint on Agritourism. He provides some relevant definitions.

Town Manager Ramaglia asks for confirmation that if you have a non-residential farm building and it's open to the public but never has more than 35 people, it's exempt from the Florida fire prevention codes which **Assistant Fire Marshal Henry** confirms.

Asst Fire Marshal Henry resumes his presentation with more definitions then moves on to his presentation on Food trucks.

Town Manager Ramaglia says she wants to put the information on the website. **Asst Fire Marshal Henry** agrees to do so.

There are audio difficulties so there are some missing discussions.

Asst Fire Marshal Henry reviews fire code in relation to food trucks.

Town Manager Ramaglia repeats **Asst Fire Marshal Henry's** statement that any food truck operating in town should have the 6-table food truck folder displayed in their food truck. People can email their food truck division to find out whether someone is on the list. Also, food trucks would need county inspection too. She later mentions that the Town does not allow street parking.

Committee members ask **Asst Fire Marshal Henry** some questions and clarification.

2. Consideration of Existing Town Codes (Town Planner compiling list and will attend meeting to walkthrough and answer questions)

Town Planner Fleischman explains how he compiled his packet and how they relate to agritourism. He notes that some of the main concerns is how to address "substantial off-site impacts" which he divides into six categories wherein various town and state statutes may apply.

Committee member Fernandez disagrees with some of the chosen code chosen.

Town Manager Ramaglia states that the code already exists, and that the committee is here to discuss whether it can be applied to agritourism as with everyone, needs adjustment for agritourism , or if there needs to be adjustments made everyone.

The committee members and staff discuss some of the code, homing in on the noise code. It would require some adjustment since the decibel threshold may be too low.

Town Manager Ramaglia suggests that committee members submit one (1) page of feedback regarding the existing Town code.

Town Planner Fleischman reiterates to **committee member Fernandez** that on-street parking is not permissible by Town code.

Committee members and staff continue discussion on parking and traffic. **Town Planner Fleischman** recommends that there be consideration to add some safety mechanism at intersections. **Committee member Swank** worries that agritourism operators are being singled out if they consider sight distance triangle. Discussion moves onto the noise ordinances.

Town Planner Fleischman suggests that rather than decibels as measurement that there be reasonable hours of operation. **Town Manager Ramaglia** agrees and suggests applying it for everyone while agribusiness could get similar extended hours as special events.

Discussion moves to outdoor lighting, then sign codes.

There are audio difficulties so there are some missing discussions.

Town Manager Ramaglia takes note that there seems to be a consensus that in addition to the operating hours for the noise ordinance, lighting and clean up should also be extended by one (1) hour.

Committee member Fernandez states that he will contact other associations in other parts regarding attraction signs to see what they have done.

Town Planner Fleischman and the others discuss alcohol licensure for a few minutes.

Town Manager Ramaglia says that they should gather all their resources and put them on a page on the Town website to make it more easily accessible in lieu of writing a handbook.

The committee agrees to meet back on March 20, 2024, and provide a summary of their recommendations.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The community meeting was adjourned around 8:30 p.m.

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

Committee member Joseph Chammas

Committee member Simon Fernandez

Committee member Liza Holman

Committee member Martin Holman

There are audio difficulties so there are some missing discussions.

Committee member Darrin Swank

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