



January 26, 2019

Dear Members,

As many of you may be aware, the Island Historic Society together with the Visitor's Bureau presented plans for the rework of the area seaward of the St. Simons Coast Guard station to beach including the station house, parking lot, bath house, boat yard and volley ball court.

There were two concept plans presented at their last meeting on January 24.

Plan "A" eliminated the boat yard, volley ball court and bath house in favor of additional parking spaces for beach goers. A new bath house together-showers, changing rooms, and concession stand was placed in the area of the existing boat yard.

Plan "B" was very similar but had a small area on the south side of the parking lot for approximately 20 boats. See the link for a view of the plans and additional information <https://www.coastguardbeachpark.com/project-information>

Those of us who were in attendance at the meeting were stunned that the club area was summarily eliminated without explanation.

Since the meeting, I have called Scot McQuade, the executive director of the Visitor's Bureau to discuss the plans and the possibility of meeting with the planning committee to see if there were any options to these plans. He made no promises, but said he would strongly suggest to the planning committee that they meet with us.

I also called Commissioner Peter Murphy, who represents St. Simons Island and is also on the planning committee. After some discussion, he said he will bring some additional concept plans that had been prepared that included an area for a boat yard for us to review and to mark up. He said that after our review, to give him a call and he will sit down to discuss our thoughts.

I called for an executive board meeting last night to discuss our options. At the meeting, I formed a committee that will represent the club to the planning committee and to those who are in decision making positions. The committee members are Steve D'Amico, Mary Catherine Hendrix, Clark Robeson, and myself. Please share any thoughts you may have with these committee members.

At this time I don't believe there is any reason to panic. There is much to be done before any plan can become a reality. However I do believe that at the end of the day, changes to the club area will be coming. Right now my thought is to keep the conversation open between our committee and their planning committee. Hopefully we can come to some satisfactory plan for us. If not, I will keep you informed and we will formulate the next step.

The final plan for the area is on schedule to be presented to the public on February 22. I am not sure how our involvement may affect this timeline.

For more information, please visit their website
<https://www.coastguardbeachpark.com/>

View their proposed conceptual plans:
<https://www.coastguardbeachpark.com/conceptual-designs>

And **submit your comments** to their committee in the form provided below these plans

Happy Sailing,
Robert Ussery
Commodore