



Town of Hilton Head Island
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 18, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.
MINUTES

Present from the Commission: Ray Kisiah, *Chairman*; Jack Daly, *Vice-Chairman*; Thomas Dowling; Jerry Okarma; William Zurilla; Mike Manesiotis

Absent from the Commission: Christina Kristian, *Excused*

Present from Town Council: Tom Lennox; David Ames

Present from Town Staff: Jennifer Ray, *Capital Program Manager*; Taylor Ladd, *Project Planner*; Diane Busch, *Staff Attorney*; Aaron Black, *Facilities Manager*; Marc Robson, *Beach Operations Manager*; Karen Knox, *Senior Administrative Assistant*

1. Call to Order

Chairman Kisiah called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the requirements of the Town of Hilton Head Island.

4. Roll Call – All Commissioners were present except for Commissioner Kristian who was excused.

5. Swearing in Ceremony for New Commissioner

Diane Busch, Staff Attorney, performed the swearing in of new Commissioner Mike Manesiotis.

6. Approval of Minutes

- August 19, 2021
- August 24, 2021
- September 9, 2021

Vice Chairman Daly moved to approve all the Minutes. Commissioner Zurilla seconded. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

7. Appearance by Citizens - None

8. Reports

- a. **Island Recreation Association Update** – Mr. Frank Soule reported on the following:
- The youth and teen after school programs have been averaging between 80-100 kids a day.
 - Fitness programs and our memberships are maintaining.
 - The Senior Center has received a makeover.
 - It has been decided not to put a dome over the pool this year. The decision was made when Covid numbers were rising.
 - We are struggling a little with staffing and particularly finding lifeguards.
 - Currently wrapping up our youth sports season, and are in the middle of registration for basketball, flag football and roller hockey.
 - E-gaming program has been successful.
 - The Oyster Festival held at Low Country Celebration Park was extremely successful with approximately 3500-4000 passing through, with over 50% of the people coming from out of state.
 - The Turkey Trot Race is now sold out with 1,500 participants.
 - Taylor Ladd is now the liaison with the Island Recreation Association and will be participating in Board Meetings.
- b. **Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Update** – Taylor Ladd reviewed various CIP platforms the Town has recently launched. Ms. Ladd also noted that there is a new newsletter out and that we will be transitioning this newsletter to a CIP Newsletter. The newsletter will continue to highlight park projects but will include a broader scope to include information about more town projects.

9. Unfinished Business - None

10. New Business

a. **Proposed Parks & Recreation Commission 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Ladd reported staff met with Chairman Kisiah regarding next year's calendar. A summer recess has been built into the calendar. Commissioner Daly moved to approve the proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule. Commissioner Manesiotis seconded. The 2022 Meeting Schedule was unanimously approved.

11. Park Updates – Taylor Ladd reported on the following:

- Ms. Ladd noted that Jeff Buckalew, Interim Director of Infrastructure Services gave a presentation to the Town Council Meeting on November 16, 2021, regarding our beach parks and beach maintenance program. Mr. Buckalew spoke specifically about Islanders Beach Park and future considerations for items related to policy, capital improvements, programming, and maintenance.

- Ms. Ladd reported staff is anticipating the initial concepts being available to the public starting in the new year for the three park projects.

12. Park Commissioner Comments

Commissioners discussed the need to focus on existing deficiencies and how parks as a system affect each other; the desire to balance the needs identified in Our Plan and the Parks & Recreation Master Plan with the use of the Mid-Island Tract; and the recommendation to continue talks with Beaufort County regarding Barker Field.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Submitted by: Karen D. Knox, Secretary

Approved: December 9, 2021

The recording of this meeting can be found on the Town's website at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov