



The Town of Hilton Head Island
**Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural
Preservation Task Force
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2023, 1:00 p.m.**

Present from the Task Force: Chairman Lavon Stevens; Vice Chairman Palmer E. Simmons; Tom Henz; Ibrahim Abdul-Malik; John Campbell; Joyce Wright

Present from Town Council: Alex Brown

Absent from the Task Force: Shani Green

Present from Town Staff: Angie Stone, *Assistant Town Manager*; Brian Eber, *Development Services Manager*; Krishana Perry, *Principal Planner – Historic Neighborhood Preservation*; Ashley Goodrich, *Principal Planner*; Alexis Cook, *Principal Planner*; Alex Pickney, *Principal Planner*; Nichte Barrientos, *Assistant Planner – Economic Development*; Karen Knox, *Senior Administrative Assistant*

1. Call to Order

Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. 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.

3. Roll Call

As noted above.

4. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Stevens asked for a Motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Henz moved to approve. Mr. Simmons seconded. By a show of hands, the agenda was approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Stevens asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes of May 1, 2023. Mr. Henz moved to approve. Mr. Campbell seconded. By a show of hands, the Minutes of May 1, 2023, was approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

6. Appearance by Citizens

No comments were received on the Open Town Hall Portal. No citizens spoke at the meeting.

7. Staff Report

a. Home Safety and Repair Program Update

Ms. Barrientos provided the presentation as included in the packet. Following her presentation, she answered questions from the Task Force. She also informed the Task Force that the future contact for the program would be Chris Yates.

b. Sewer Connection Program Update

There have been no new applications since the last meeting. Ms. Barrientos and Mr. Eber answered questions from the Task Force.

c. Historic Neighborhood Permitting & Design Studio Report

Ms. Perry provided an update on the design studio, as included in the packet. There was one new request made, and it has been completed. Ms. Perry stated that she will be including a case study in the next meeting. Ms. Perry and Mr. Eber answered questions from the Task Force.

d. Town Open Positions Update

Ms. Perry provided the update on the open positions in the Town.

e. General Staff Updates

- Ms. Perry provided the update and answered several questions from the Task Force.
- General Staff Updates:
 - The July Task Force meeting will be cancelled, regular meetings will resume in August.
 - The Town will have a table at the Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park Annual Juneteenth celebration, where information about programs will be shared.
 - The Planning Commission will be going on a Gullah Mobile Tour on June 7th as a part of their required Board training.
 - Krishana Perry provided a summary of the May 16th Town Council meeting where Chairman Stevens and she gave presentations on the Gullah Geechee Work Plan and Gullah Geechee Culture Preservation Project Report.
 - Krishana Perry discussed some recent events she attended for continued community outreach.
 - Krishana shared that Luana Graves Sellars, Lowcountry Gullah Foundation will host an Heirs' Property Forestry Workshop on June 10th from 11:00am-1:00pm at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, and provided flyers to the Task Force members.
 - The Town's Capital Improvements Program team will host a public meeting for a new proposed park in the Squire Pope Historic Neighborhood, Taylor Family Park. The park is in the planning and design stage. Staff inquired about an appropriate time and location to host a community meeting to discuss what the residents of the neighborhood would like in the park on and proposed 6:00 p.m. on June 27th at the Rowing and Sailing Center.
 - CDC meeting summary—The newly appointed Board of Directors for the Gullah Geechee Historic Neighborhoods Community Development Corporation were sworn in, a fantastic historic presentation was delivered by Cindaia Ervin to set the stage for the work to commence, and the meeting schedule was discussed

- The second meeting of the CDC will be held Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

8. Discussion Items

a. District Planning Update

Ms. Goodrich provided a presentation on the District Planning Update, as included in the packet. She answered many questions from the Task Force.

b. LMO Phase 4 – Family Subdivision and Family Compound

Ms. Goodrich provided a presentation as included in the packet. The Task Force asked many questions, including some about the mapping process, zoning, impacts on existing compounds, non-conformities, and documentation.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Submitted by: Brian Glover, Administrative Assistant

Approved: August 7, 2023