



**Town of Hilton Head Island  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, September 8, 2022 – 3:30 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Present from the Commission:** Ray Kisiah, Chairman; Thomas Dowling; Mike Manesiotis; William Zurilla; John Parsons

**Absent from Commission:** Christina Kristian; Jack Daly

**Present from Town Staff:** Jennifer Ray, *Capital Program Manager*; Aaron Black, *Facilities Manager*; Missy Luick, *Community Planning Manager*; Taylor Ladd, *Project Manager*; Karen Knox, *Senior Administrative Assistant*; Brian Glover, *Administrative Assistant*

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**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Kisiah called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.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. Swearing in Ceremony for New Commissioner – John Parsons**

Missy Luick, Community Planning Manager, swore in the new Commissioner John Parsons.

**5. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Chairman Kisiah asked for nominations for Chairman. Commissioner Dowling nominated Commissioner Kisiah for Chairman. By a show of hands, Chairman Kisiah was elected with a vote of 5-0-0.

Chairman Kisiah asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Chairman Kisiah nominated Commissioner Zurilla for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Dowling nominated Commissioner Daly for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Manesiotis asked for a handwritten ballot. Five handwritten ballots were counted with three received for

Commissioner Zurilla and two votes received for Commissioner Daly. Commissioner Bill Zurilla was elected as Vice Chairman.

## **6. Roll Call**

As noted above.

## **7. Approval of Minutes - June 9, 2022**

Commissioner Manesiotis moved to approve. Vice-Chairman Zurilla seconded. The motion to approve the Minutes of June 9, 2022, was passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

## **8. Appearance by Citizens – One comment was received to the Open Town Hall Portal. The report was sent to all Commissioners and made a part of the record.**

## **9. Reports**

### **a) Island Recreation Association – Frank Soule**

Mr. Soule provided a presentation covering the association's progress over the summer months. He stated that many of the summer programs were successful. He mentioned that there are some staffing issues conflicting with the high level of interest and continued expansion. After Mr. Soule's presentation, he answered many questions from the Commission including several about the progress of the new rock-climbing facility, the staffing issues, and the levels of local usage.

## **10. Unfinished Business**

## **11. New Business**

### **a) FY22 and FY23 Parks Projects – Taylor Ladd**

Ms. Ladd began the presentation with the details of the park projects in 2022. She covered projects that were completed as well as projects which would be continued into 2023. Following this, Ms. Ladd listed many projects including new construction, renovation, and upkeep and maintenance on the 2023 agenda, as well as projects up for approval by the Town Council. After her presentation, Ms. Ladd answered questions from the Commission. Notably, the Commission expressed concerns about accessibility requirements for any proposed overlook towers or similar facilities at parks.

### **b) Parks and Recreation Master Plan Workbook – Taylor Ladd**

Ms. Ladd provided a brief overview of the purpose and contents of the Master Plan Workbook. She noted that there was a community survey on the topic open for public feedback for six weeks. The results of the survey will be reviewed and brought before the Commission. Additionally, Ms. Ladd noted that the Master Plan Workbook language is adaptive, and the primary focus of the Commission should be their feedback on the content of the sections, not the specific wordage.

After Ms. Ladd's overview, the Commission asked questions on individual topics within the workbook summarized below.

Chaplin Park: Basketball Courts: The Commission asked if there were details about the basketball courts that were not mentioned in the master plan. Ms. Ladd stated that the Town is trying to remain fiscally conservative on spending for the project. The Town wants to focus on renovating what is on site, rather than adding to the project.

Mid Island Track: The Commission asked for clarification on the wordage used for the clause about natural disasters.

Funding Alternatives: The Commission expressed their concerns about receiving funding by selling the naming rights.

Mr. Dowling was excused from the meeting at 4:40 pm.

## **12. Updates**

### **a) Park Maintenance – Aaron Black**

Aaron Black spoke briefly on the progress of park maintenance. He stated that they are having success in many of their maintenance and improvements projects across the island. Also, he mentioned the MyHHI app has been a very successful tool for the public to report issues to the maintenance crews. Following his presentation, Mr. Black answered questions from the Commission.

### **b) Staff Report – Taylor Ladd**

Ms. Ladd stated that the next meeting will include the remaining workbook progress and the curated feedback from the community survey.

## **13. Park Commissioner Comments**

The Commission thanked Ms. Ladd for her work on the project. The Commission also recommended attendance of the Mid Island Track Workshop on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

## **14. Adjournment**

The Meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Submitted by: Brian Glover, Administrative Assistant

Approved: October 6, 2022