TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: December 9, 2009 **Time:** 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Willis O. Shay, *Chairman,* John Diamond, *Vice-Chairman*, Michael A. Keskin, John Munro, Louise Cohen, Frank Soule

Members Absent: Bret Martin

Staff Present: Susan Simmons, *Director of Finance*; Debra Cyrilla, *Accounting Specialist*; Vicki Pfannenschmidt, *Administrative Assistant*

Others Present: Various representatives from some of the organizations that applied for ATAX Grants

Media: Josh McCann, *Island Packet*

I Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M.

II FOIA Compliance:

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

III Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Soule moved to approve the Minutes of November 30, 2009. Mr. Diamond seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously. (7-0) Mr. Soule moved to approve the Minutes of December 3, 2009. Mrs. Cohen seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously. (7-0)

IV Chairman's Report

Mr. Shay stated he would like to bring the issue of forward funding before the Committee. Mr. Munro motioned to amend the agenda to include consideration of a recommendation to Town Council concerning forward funding. Mr. Diamond seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

V Unfinished Business

VI New Business:

- **Consideration of a Recommendation to Town Council Concerning Forward Funding**

After lengthy discussion, Mr. Munro moved to recommend to Town Council discontinue its past practice of approving grant requests a year in advance. Mr. Diamond seconded the motion. Mr. Soule noted the Gullah Celebration which is conducted by the Native Island Business and Community Association is held in February each year and they would have to have their funding in place a year in advance. Mr. Soule moved to amend the motion to include an exception and recommend that Town Council continue forward funding for the Native Island

Business and Community Association due to the timing of the Gullah Celebration. Mr. Keskin seconded the motion. The amended motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

- **Approval of 2010 Proposed Meeting Dates**

The Committee members reviewed and approved the dates proposed for 2010.

- **Preliminary Review of Committee's Recommendations**

Committee members discussed each individual application and the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee Recommendations were as follows:

Applicant	2011 Funds Application	ATAC Recom-mendation
Arts Center of Coastal Carolina	414,542	0
Hilton Head **Symphony Orchestra**	175,000	0
Native Island Business & Community	75,000	75,000
Town of Hilton Head Island	1,117,293	0
Town of Hilton Head Island - Capital	120,313	0
Totals	$1,902,148	$75,000

Applicant	2010 Funds Application	ATAC Recom-mendation
Art League of Hilton Head	54,000	54,000
Harbour Town Merchants Association	12,500	7,000
Hilton Head **Choral Society**	21,045	15,000
Hilton Head **Concours d'Elegance (advertising only)**	78,000	78,000
Hilton Head **Dance Theater**	47,754	9,000
Hilton Head Area **Hospitality Association (culinary advertising)**	125,000	0
Hilton Head Island **St. Patrick's Day Parade (band &refreshments)**	8,000	8,000
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton **Chamber of Commerce VCB**	391,000	300,000
Hilton Head **Symphony Orchestra - Shell Programs**	20,000	18,000
Island School Council for the Arts	16,800	0
Main Street Youth Theater (report back in April)	68,000	25,000
SC Lowcountry & Resort Islands Tourism	40,000	4,000
Shelter Cove Harbour Company	35,000	7,000
Skull Creek July 4th Celebration	8,000	7,000
South Carolina Repertory Company	30,000	0
The Coastal Discovery Museum	165,000	162,750
The Coastal Discovery Museum - Capital	100,000	0
The Heritage Library (recommend coord efforts of 2 hist. sites w/CDM)	55,000	0

The Sandbox	41,215	30,000
Totals	$1,316,314	$724,750

Mr. Soule moved to adopt all of the amounts that the committee recommended to Town Council as stated above and Mr. Keskin seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor. (6-0) It was noted there was a $23,905 balance of the estimated funds available left to allocate. After discussion, Mr. Munro moved to recommend Town Council allocate any remaining funds as they see fit. Mr. Soule seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor. (6-0)

During discussion of the Art League of Hilton Head Island, Mr. Michael Keskin disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure form is attached. During discussion of the Harbour Town Merchants Association, Mr. John Munro disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure form is attached. During discussion of the Town of Hilton Head Island, Mr. Frank Soule disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure form is attached. During discussion of the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Willis Shay disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure form is attached. During discussion of the Native Island Business and Community Affairs Association, Mrs. Louise M. Cohen disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure form is attached.

X Adjournment:

Mr. Munro moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Keskin seconded the Motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Approved: **Respectfully submitted:**

Willis O. Shay, Chairman **Vicki L. Pfannenschmidt**