

**The Town of Hilton Head Island
Parks & Recreation Commission
Thursday, March 10, 2011
3:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Daniel Gafgen, Jack Hamrick, John McCann, Robert Moore, P. Jeffrey North, Timothy Singleton, Marc Stuckart

Members Absent: none

Town Staff: Scott Liggett, Anne Cyran, Julian Walls, Brian Hulbert

Town Council: Bill Ferguson

Other: Frank Soule, *Island Recreation Association*

I. Call to Order

Chairman McCann called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

III. Freedom of Information 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.

IV. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 10, 2011 were approved as presented.

V. Appearance by Citizens

Mr. Frank Babel, Squeaky Wheels Cycling Advocacy Group, stated that the pathways are in good shape. Mr. Babel reported on the following topics:

- The amount of repair and refurbishment work that is required to maintain Town pathways is under-funded. Hilton Head Island needs to provide sufficient budget monies to maintain a safe pathways system.
- The proposed Wexford Circle/Fresh Market Shoppes pathway should be extended to Arrow Road alongside BUS 278.
- What is the status of a pathway into Honey Horn? It is not on the CIP sheets.
- For safety reasons a new short pathway on the ocean side of Cordillo Parkway between Pope Avenue and DeAllyon is recommended.
- The Pathway's Safety Enhancement Program by Darrin Shoemaker is well-done and much appreciated.

Mr. Liggett's response:

- Most of the Town programs and initiatives would be better served with higher levels of funding, particularly maintenance.
- Town staff is attempting to confirm the limits of the Wexford Circle to Fresh Market Shoppes pathway.

- The Honey Horn pathway is funded this year – FY 11. We are currently engaged in consultant selection for the project. There is a bit of a disconnect between the original cost estimates and the resultant budget that was approved.
- Construction of a second path has not been identified as a need in any of our previously approved studies or plans.

Commissioner Stuckart asked if the rejuvenating / resealing of pathways is an issue now or will be 10 years from now. Mr. Babel replied that maintenance is needed for the future.

Commissioner North asked Mr. Babel what deficiencies he feels there is not enough funding for. Mr. Babel replied that tree roots are breaking up the pathways. Commissioner North suggested that if there are certain areas of pathways that are in dire need, to bring those locations to the Commissioners' attention rather than throw money at pathways in general.

Chairman McCann stated that when Mr. Babel has a presentation this lengthy, it needs to be an agenda item. Chairman McCann requested that the Pathway's Safety Enhancement Program by Darrin Shoemaker be provided to the Commissioners for the April Parks & Recreation Meeting.

Mr. Mike Learned, stated that he recently relocated to Hilton Head Island and would like to request that outdoor racquetball courts be built on the Island. Mr. Learned mentioned the following benefits of an outdoor court:

- Easily constructed
- Low maintenance
- A professional racquetball organization has said they would hold tournaments here as well as clinics. This would bring in revenue for many businesses.
- The outdoor court can also be utilized by other racquet sports as well.

All the Commissioners and Mr. Soule provided positive feedback to this request. Chairman McCann suggested that Mr. Learned also contact Beaufort County with this request for outdoor racquetball courts. Chairman McCann asked Mr. Learned to come back to the Commission with cost estimates of what is involved with constructing outdoor racquetball courts.

VI. Reports

- **Update from Island Recreation Association.** Mr. Frank Soule reported that the SHARE program had a great season between socials and regular activities. Youth soccer has over 600 players. Lacrosse has over 50 players. The dome over the pool is coming down within two weeks. Wingfest is Saturday, March 19, and it is one of their best events.

Commissioner Singleton asked Mr. Soule about how to get more minority children involved in activities. Mr. Soule replied that it might take talking with students at lunchtime, focusing on younger children, and encouraging the parents to be involved.

- **Update from Beaufort County Parks & Leisure Services.** No report

VII. Unfinished Business - None

VIII. New Business

- **Island Recreation Association Proposed Budget** - Mr. Frank Soule presented the proposed Island Recreation Association budget. The first request is for the general fund support of \$623,109 which is a 1% increase in funding. The second request is for the funding of the Island Recreation Association's CIP budget for the amount of \$170,000. After review of the proposed Island Recreation Association budget, Mr. Gafgen made a motion to recommend approval of the Island Recreation Association budget and forward to Town Council. Mr. North seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY 2012-2021.** Mr. Scott Liggett asked the Commissioners to review this document and provide their input at the April Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting. Mr. Liggett asked the Commissioners to think about the following questions while reviewing the proposed CIP document:
 1. What is not on the list that needs to be added?
 2. What is on the list that needs to be removed?
 3. What input or guidance they have for specific projects that Town Council should consider as part of our future "Parks Upgrades?"

Commissioner Singleton stated that the areas along Pineland Station, The Oaks, and Sandalwood are a hazard and asked why this area is not a priority. Mr. Liggett replied that the Gardner Drive pathway has received approval, and funding and the design is proceeding. The CIP projects are listed in priority order. Town staff addresses health, safety and welfare issues first. Mr. Liggett stated that he will include the "old" prioritization methodology in the Parks & Recreation Commission April packet.

IX. Updates

Mr. Julian Walls, Facilities Manager, reported on plans to relocate the Bristol Sports Arena hockey rink to the existing skate board park. The skate board park has a newer rink and is in better shape than the existing hockey rink. This flip flop will save money and is expected to be completed by the end of June. Lighting will be added to skateboard park. At the Crossings Park, two open areas between the existing ball fields were established in order to provide a better viewing corridor where younger kids play and parents can watch them. Major repairs were made to the fencing around the ball fields. New flooring has been installed in the press box area. HVAC units have been replaced and another one added to the existing office area. Water sources have been upgraded making it easier to water down infields between games. Concession areas have received electrical upgrades. Installed electricity to various pitching mounds allows pitching machines to be adjusted.

Mr. Walls stated that he continues to have monthly meetings and quarterly inspections with Mr. Mark Roseneau of Beaufort County. Mr. Walls stated that communication with Beaufort County Parks & Leisure Services is greatly improved.

X. Park Commissioner Comments - none

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Wilson

Approved by: _____
John McCann, Chairman