



The Town of Hilton Head Island
**Gullah Geechee Land & Cultural
Preservation Task Force
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2023, 1:00 p.m.**

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

Present from Town Council: Alex Brown

Present from Town Staff: Missy Luick, *Assistant Community Development Director*; Carolyn Grant, *Communications Director*; Natalie Harvey, *Director of Cultural Affairs*; Taylor Ladd, *Project Manager*; Krishana Perry, *Principal Planner – Historic Neighborhood Preservation*; Ashley Goodrich, *Principal Planner*; Kevin Tylus, *Public Space Programming & Events Manager*; April Akins, *Revenue Services Manager*; Karen Knox, *Senior Administrative Assistant*; Brian Glover, *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. Ms. Wright seconded. By a show of hands, the agenda was approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Stevens asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of November 7, 2022. Mr. Henz moved to approve. Mr. Campbell seconded. By a show of hands, the Minutes of November 7, 2022, was approved by a vote of 7-0-0.

6. Appearance by Citizens

No comments were received to the Open Town Hall Portal and no citizens spoke at the meeting.

7. Discussion Items

- a. Introduction of New Staff Member, Krishana Perry, Principal Planner – Historic Neighborhood Preservation

Krishana Perry spoke about herself and her career before coming to the Town. The Board stated they were excited to work with her and thanked her for joining the Town.

- b. Business License Meeting Update

April Akins met with Chairman Stevens, Mr. Abdul-Malik, and Ms. Wright on December 5th about the requirements for Business Licenses and Special Events. Ms. Akins provided an update about what was discussed at the meeting as well as the goals for the project. Following her presentation, she answered questions from the Board about the progress of implementation, requirements for different events, and exceptions for business licenses. The item was then opened to public comment.

Taiwan Scott asked for clarification on the differences between open-air market sales and special events.

There was an additional round of discussion by the Board discussing enforcement and education.

- c. Special Events

Kevin Tylus introduced himself as the new Public Space Programming and Events Manager. He will be working with many of the Special Event requests located on Town property.

- d. District Planning Update

Missy Luick gave a short presentation on the progress of District Planning. She stated that this will remain as a standing agenda item and a regular update will be supplied at each meeting.

- e. 2023 Task Force Goals

Missy Luick provided a presentation of the goals for the Gullah Geechee Task Force in 2023. Following her presentation, she asked for questions and suggestions from the Board.

The Board asked about the dirt road paving program, Design Studio support, and resource centers available. The Board also stressed the importance of utilizing all forms of media for education about the available resources.

Following all discussion items, Chairman Stevens asked for Natalie Harvey to introduce herself. She is the new Director of Cultural Affairs and will be working with the Board in the future.

8. Staff Report

a. Delinquent Tax List Update

Missy Luick introduced Luana Graves Sellars, Founder of the Lowcountry Gullah Foundation. She provided a short overview of her foundation and its goals to assist people with properties on the delinquent tax list. She stated that there was only 1 property that went to the tax sale, and with the assistance of the Foundation, it was recovered by the original owner.

b. Historic Neighborhood Design Studio Report

Missy Luick provided a presentation as included in the packet.

c. Town Open Positions Update

A list of all open positions was emailed to the Board members. All open positions can be found on the Town's website.

d. Home Safety and Repair Program Update

100 applications have been received, 73 have been approved, and 10 sites have been visited.

e. Sewer Connection Program Update

14 applications have been received, 13 have been completed, and 1 is receiving bids.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Brian Glover, Administrative Assistant

Approved: March 6, 2023