



**Town of Hilton Head Island  
Parks & Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, October 6, 2022 – 3:30 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Present from the Commission:** Ray Kisiah, Chairman; William Zurilla, Vice-Chairman; Christina Kristian; Mike Manesiotis; John Parsons

**Absent from Commission:** Thomas Dowling, excused; Jack Daly, excused

**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*

**Present from Town Council:** Tom Lennox; Tamara Becker; Alex Brown

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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. Roll Call**

As noted above. Mr. Dowling and Mr. Daly are excused.

**5. Approval of Minutes – September 8, 2022**

Vice-Chairman Zurilla moved to approve. Mr. Manesiotis seconded. The motion to approve the Minutes of September 8, 2022, passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

**6. Appearance by Citizens**

None

**7. Reports**

None

## **8. Unfinished Business**

None

## **9. New Business**

### **a) Proposed Parks & Recreation Commission 2023 Meeting Schedule**

Mrs. Kristian moved to approve. Mr. Manesiotis seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

### **b) Mid-Island Park Recommendation – Jennifer Ray**

Jennifer Ray provided staff's presentation as included in the packet. The Board expressed many positive comments about the progress and direction of the project. Additionally, the Board voiced several concerns listed below:

- The activity fields should remain as general use fields
- Maintenance crews of the park will require additional staff
- Crossing the street for the disc golf course will be dangerous

There were additional comments from the public. Frank Babel spoke about the district development around the park, as well as the speed of vehicles. Also, he suggested that the town do a bike pathway study for park access.

Chairman Kisiah asked for a motion to approve the plan as presented and to recommend the plan for adoption by Town Council. Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve. Mrs. Kristian seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

### **c) Parks and Rec 2022 Community Survey Results – Taylor Ladd**

Taylor Ladd provided an overview of the community survey as included in the packet. After the presentation, she answered questions from the Commission. The Commission discussed the survey and expressed several concerns outlined below:

- The misleading question about funding is a problem
- There is a major problem with parking, particularly around certain parks
- There may be a lack of survey response from some demographics of the community
- Community feedback about park safety is a major concern

Chairman Kisiah asked for a motion to approve the community survey report and submit the report to town council as presented. Mr. Manesiotis moved to approve. Vice-Chairman Zurilla seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

Following the survey discussion, Chairman Kisiah asked for staff to schedule a presentation on the parking master plan for parks and park safety.

**d) Parks and Rec Master Plan Recommendation – Taylor Ladd**

Taylor Ladd presented the list of recommendations for review for the Commission. The Commission made several additions to the recommendations. The list was updated with the following additions during the meeting.

**Parks: Existing and Proposed**

- Chaplin Community Park program should include maintaining two (2) basketball courts.
- Any Town work at Historic Mitchellville Freedom Park (HMFP) should follow the adopted HMFP Master Plan.
- There should be no consideration given to use the Mid-Island Tract property for debris management.
- Park classifications should be revised to include a culture/historic classification, as well as reconsideration of current park classifications to better match their primary uses.

**Recreation Facilities**

- Consider adding counters or conducting a count to determine pathway use in key locations.
- Sand volleyball does not need high prioritization as it does not appear to be a high-demand recreation facility.
- Evaluate feasibility of constructing a second recreation center on the south end of the island.

**Funding**

- Consider adopting a policy to guide and specify criteria for granting naming rights to private entities for parks and/or recreation facilities.
- Consider approaching Beaufort County to ask for a proportionate amount of funding based on population, usage, and services provided.

**Maintenance & Operations**

- Continue to review and address staffing needs for parks and recreation at maintenance and operations levels.
- Prioritize marketing and communications for the Island's parks and recreation.
- Consider the NRPA Maintenance Management Strategies for current and future park maintenance.

The Commission voted to forward their recommendations as noted in the staff memo with additions discussed to Town Council for consideration. Mr. Manesiotis moved to approve. Vice-Chairman Zurilla seconded. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0-0.

## **10. Updates**

### **a) Staff Report – Taylor Ladd**

Taylor Ladd provided an update on the future meeting dates and schedule for the Commission.

## **11. Park Commissioner Comments**

None

## **12. Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted by: Brian Glover,  
Administrative Assistant

Approved: December 8, 2022