

**The Town of Hilton Head Island
Parks & Recreation Commission
Thursday, March 10, 2016
3:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Paul Boes, Peter Keber, Fred Lowery, Mike Ray
Members Absent: Mario Caballero, Heather Rath, Andrew Schumacher
Town Staff: Scott Liggett, Marcy Benson, Julian Walls, Shawn Colin, Charles Cousins
Other: Frank Soule, *Executive Director for Island Recreation Association*
Frank Babel, *Bicycle Advisory Committee*

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. 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.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting of January 14, 2016 were approved as presented.

- 5. Appearance by Citizens** – Mr. George Palleta, a Sea Pines resident and owner of three units at Cordillo apartments stated that the Town is responsible for the Cordillo tennis courts. Mr. Palleta suggested to the Commission that the entrance be paved to present a clean and useable Town facility; signage showing that the courts are a Town park and to clean up the perimeter and enhance the park. Mr. Palleta reiterated that the Cordillo courts are the responsibility of the Town and therefore should fix it and make it a full service park. He said “don’t discriminate because our lower income people live at this location. If Hilton Head Island is to be known as a premier destination, then we must have people to support its infrastructure, beauty and diversity.

Commissioner Lowery replied that no one wants to neglect any part of this community.

Mr. George Casey, president of the Hilton Head Island Pickleball Association, stated that this group is in need of land or a facility to accommodate the resident pickleball members as well as the many visitors that come here and have to wait for a pickleball court to play.

Vice Chairman Keber said that this Commission is in the process of completing an application that would be available online that the various groups can fill out and submit their requests to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Lowery stated that in addition to pickleball, many other sports groups have requested designated space for their particular sport. How we accommodate these many groups will be a challenge.

6. Reports

- a. **Update from Island Recreation Association.** Mr. Frank Soule reported on the continuing success of the events and programs at the Island Recreation Center. Such as snow day, daddy & daughter dance, seafood festival; after school programs, water aerobics, basketball, senior programs and athletics to name a few.
- b. **Update from Bicycle Advisory Committee.** Mr. Frank Babel made a presentation on ways to measure success for this bicycle friendly community. Mr. Babel suggested that the Parks & Recreation Commission consider updating their mission statement to include addressing tourism needs.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. **Committee volunteers for park user-survey workgroup.** Vice Chairman Keber stated that the surveys have been formulated and during the month of March the Commissioners will be manning certain parks and asking people to take this in-park user survey so it can be determined how often the parks are utilized and what elements the public wants (if anything) that may be lacking within our parks.
- b. **Committee volunteers for Beaufort County Proposal workgroup.** Vice Chairman Keber stated that this committee will meet with Town staff to develop a recommendation to come to the full Parks & Recreation Commission prior to budgets being submitted and reviewed by Town Council. Vice Chairman Keber stated that a Special Parks & Recreation Commission will be scheduled in order to take this committee's recommendation to the full Commission and also to review the proposed budget request from the Island Recreation Association.
- c. **Committee volunteers for citizen recreational wants workgroup.** Vice Chairman Keber stated that this committee is in the process of creating a business plan/application that would be available online for groups to submit and present requests for consideration by the Parks & Recreation Commission. This is expected to be in place by the end of May 2016.
- d. **Committee volunteers for revising the Parks & Recreation Commission Rules of Procedure workgroup.** No update

8. New Business

- a. **Establishment of a committee to research neighborhood/recreational parks in the Cordillo area per Public Facilities request.** Vice Chairman Keber stated that this committee will be created to look into present and future sites in that area for a neighborhood or recreation park. Mr. Jack Daly, president of the Forest Beach Association volunteered to help on this committee.

9. Park Updates.

Mr. Julian Walls, Facilities Manager, gave a brief report on some maintenance and repairs that have been completed at each of the Town parks.

10. Park Commissioner Comments. none

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Wilson

Approved by: April 21, 2016
Peter Keber, Vice Chairman