

**The Town of Hilton Head Island
Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2016
3:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Heather Rath, Peter Keber, Andrew Schumacher, Paul Boes, Mike Ray
Members Absent: Fred Lowery, Mario Caballero
Town Staff: Marcy Benson, Scott Liggett, Julian Walls, Charles Cousins
Town Council: Bill Harkins, John McCann
Other: Frank Soule, *Executive Director for Island Recreation Association*

1. Call to Order

Chairman Rath 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 March 10, 2016 were approved as presented.

5. Appearance by Citizens –

Mr. Frank Babel announced that he has been elected by the Greater Island Council to be the Chairman of their Parks & Recreation Committee and is looking forward to working with the Town and with this Commission to help make the parks system better.

Mr. Babel stated that the RBC parked 4,000 bicycles during the Heritage.

Mr. Babel announced that the Circle to Circle Committee has approved a trail system, bike lanes and a Complete Streets policy.

Mr. Babel reported that the Town's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) has approved \$100,000 in the budget for the next five years for safety and access funds. This will allow us to work with the Town to identify any hazards and safety issues and come up with solutions.

Mr. Bruce Pitkin, Secretary/Treasurer for the Yacht Cove Board of Directors, stated that there are 14 acres in Yacht Cove on the water that the Town purchased in 1999. In 2004 the Town committed \$250,000 to its budget to develop this property as a neighborhood park. This project then continually got dropped. Our Yacht Cove community did surveys and

would like to push forward with a passive park on this property. It has been 17 years and we would like to know if the Town still has interest in creating this passive park.

Chairman Rath asked Mr. Pitkin to provide to the Parks & Recreation Commission an official letter from the Yacht Cove POA as a collective whole stating that they want to pursue this passive park.

6. Reports - None

7. Unfinished Business - None

8. New Business

Review of the Island Recreation Association's proposed FY17 funding request. Mr. Frank Soule presented the Island Recreation Association funding request for \$683,052. The Town will fund 31% of the Association's overall revenues for the operations budget in FY17. Mr. Soule provided a detailed list of the Association's expenses for the many programs and scholarships as well as a list of programs and participants.

The CIP funding request is \$267,000 in the Towns CIP budget under Parks Upgrades and the General Fund.

Mr. Soule expressed his sincere appreciation to the Town for their support and the Town's Finance Department for all of their administrative work and support.

Chairman Rath thanked the Island Recreation Association for the high quality and variety of recreational services they provide to the community.

Mr. Schumacher made a motion to approve the Hilton Head Island Recreation Association's proposed FY17 Funding Request as presented. Mr. Keber seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Park Updates.

Mr. Liggett reported that the underpass and pathway connection at Shelter Cove is near completion. The beach renourishment start date has been scheduled for June 15, 2016 on the north end of the island.

10. Park Commissioner Comments.

Chairman Rath stated that she, Mr. Keber and Mr. Boes recently met with Mr. Liggett regarding the Beaufort County proposed agreement. Chairman Rath will compose the notes from that meeting and will present the results at the July Parks & Recreation Commission meeting.

Chairman Rath thanked the members for participating in the parks users survey process. She will present the data at the July Parks & Recreation Commission meeting.

Chairman Rath stated that she will be meeting with Town Officials and others regarding the next steps with the Cordillo tennis courts. Commissioner Ray stated that he is a property owner in that area and requested to be involved in any meetings concerning the Cordillo tennis courts.

Chairman Rath stated that the Beaufort County Sales Commission is vetting projects and two of the projects that relate to this Commission are the Island Recreation Center Expansion Project and the Safe Routes to Schools.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Wilson

Approved by: 5/12/2016
Heather Rath, Chairman