



Town of Hilton Head Island  
**Accommodations Tax  
Advisory Committee**

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 9:00 am  
Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Present from the Committee:** Brad Marra, *Chairman*; Dru Brown, *Vice-Chairman*; Jim Fluker, Julie A. Smith, Stephen Arnold

**Absent from the Committee:** Roger Freedman and Richard Thomas

**Present from Town Council:** Tom Lennox, Glen Stanford & Tamara Becker

**Present from Town Staff:** Josh Gruber, *Assistant Town Manager*; John Troyer, *Director of Finance*; Jennifer McEwen, *Director of Cultural Affairs*; Rene Phillips, *Web Administrator*; Marcy Benson, *Senior Grants Administrator*; Cindaia Ervin, *Finance Assistant*

**Present from Media:** None

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### **1. Call to Order**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

### **2. FOIA Compliance**

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

### **3. Swearing in of New Member(s) by Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager**

#### **a. Stephen Arnold**

Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager, swore in newly appointed committee member Stephen Arnold. He congratulated him on behalf of Town Council and thanked him for his important role he will serve in the community.

### **4. Crystal Award Presentation by Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager**

#### **a. Rob Bender**

Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager, presented Mr. Bender with his crystal award. He thanked him for his six years of service and honorable job he did during some of the Town's difficult times and also great times.

## 5. Reception

- a. A reception will be held in Council Chambers to congratulate and welcome Mr. Arnold to the committee and to thank Mr. Bender for his six years of service.

A short reception was held to congratulate and welcome newly appointed member Mr. Arnold and thank Mr. Bender for his six years of service on the committee.

## 6. Special Orders

- a. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mrs. Smith made a motion to appoint Brad Marra as Chairman. Mr. Fluker seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Mrs. Smith made a motion to appoint Dru Brown as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Fluker seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

## 7. Approval of Minutes

- a. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, April 4, 2019

Mr. Fluker moved to approve the minutes from April, 4, 2019. Mr. Brown seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

## 8. Unfinished Business - NONE

## 9. New Business

- a. Discussion Regarding Potential Improvements to the Accommodations Tax Grant Application for 2020.

The committee discussed that the current application has evolved and is capturing pertinent information that is needed to help them determine awarding for those applying. After careful consideration, it was determined they would not make any changes to the 2020 Accommodations Tax Grant Application.

## 10. Public Comment

**Skip Hoagland:** Addressed the committee and encouraged them to add public comment to all of the Accommodations Tax Committee Meeting agendas. He also discussed his concerns regarding the Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce.

## 11. Adjournment

Chairman Marra adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

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Cindaia Ervin, Secretary

Approved: August 15, 2019

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Brad Marra, Chairman