

**The Town of Hilton Head Island
Parks & Recreation Commission Work Session
Thursday, April 11, 2019
3:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Ray Kisiah, Paul Boes, Jerry Okarma, Jack Daly, Michael Mccullion, Caroline Rinehart, Mike Ray

Members Absent: none

Town Staff: Marcy Benson, *Sr. Grants Administrator*; Jennifer Ray, *Deputy Director of Community Development*; Shawn Colin, *Director of Community Development*;

Other: Frank Soule, *Executive Director for Island Recreation Association*;

1. Call to Order

Chairman Kisiah 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 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes of March 14, 2019 were approved as presented.

5. Appearance by Citizens

Mr. Skip Hoagland stated to the Commission that his recommendation is for the Town to stop funding the Chamber of Commerce DMO and use those ATAX funds for parks, recreation, bike paths etc.

Mr. Alex Cruden, President of the Hilton Head Island Pickleball Club, stated our club is seeking the support and guidance of this Commission for a pickleball center to be placed at Chaplin Park. We seek to have that done as a CIP park improvement rather than a separate project. This would be a great investment for the community for residents and visitors.

Mr. Frank Babel reported the Bicycle Friendly Community award will be announced in May. May is National Bike month and there will be many activities promoting bicycle riding. The Bicycle Advisory Committee is focusing on many tasks such as safety, education and ambassador programs. There is a need for volunteers to help park bicycles during the Heritage.

6. Reports

- a. Island Recreation Association Funding Request for FY 2020** – Mr. Soule gave a brief history of the budget process between the Town of Hilton Head Island and the Island Recreation Association. Mr. Soule stated the Association’s Board approved an operating budget of \$2,852,489 for FY2020. The general fund support request to the

Town is \$893,889. If approved the Town would fund 32% of the Association's overall revenues for the operations budget in FY20.

Mr. Soule stated this proposed budget has no surprises. Mr. Soule highlighted a few items:

- A full-time position dedicated to special needs programs and camps.
- Propane cost and usage for the pool went up.
- We see success in many programs due to more space and more opportunities for children and adults.
- We need to find a permanent home for pickleball.

Mr. Skip Hoagland stated funding of any organization requires a contract and more details on expenses and receipts. There must be independent financial audits to stop the misuse or waste of our tax dollars and be provided with details.

Commissioner Mccullion made a motion to recommend to Town Council to approve the Island Recreation Association Funding Request for Fiscal Year 2020. Commissioner Okarma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Master Plan Update:** Ms. Jennifer Ray provided a brief update by stating staff is working on finalizing the Request for Proposal (RFP) by making changes to the Scope and working with our Procurement Officer. Staff anticipates sending the RFP to the Commissioners tomorrow and advertise this weekend. We hope to be under contract before the end of this fiscal year.

7. Unfinished Business - none

8. New Business - none

9. Park Updates

Chairman Kisiah announced the CIP request for batting cages resulted with staff finding there were existing batting cages that were damaged by Hurricane Matthew and had never been repaired. The Town is in the process of fixing those batting cages for us.

Mr. Skip Hoagland stated funding was provided to the Chamber of Commerce DMO after Hurricane Matthew for marketing but should have gone to fix any damage to parks and recreation facilities. Mr. Hoagland stated the Commission must demand transparency on how our money is used.

10. Park Commissioner Comment

11. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Wilson

Approved: June 13, 2019