



Town of Hilton Head Island  
**Parks & Recreation Commission**

Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

Conference Room 3

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Present from the Commission:** Ray Kisiah, Paul Boes, Jack Daly, Jerry Okarma, Mike Ray

**Absent from the Board:** Caroline Rinehart, Michael Mccullion

**Present from Town Council:** Tamara Becker

**Present from Town Staff:** Marcy Benson, Taylor Ladd, Josh Gruber, Scott Liggett

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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 mailed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

**4. Swearing in Ceremony.** Mr. Josh Gruber performed the swearing in ceremony of reappointed Commissioner Jerry Okarma.

**5. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.** Commissioner Daly made a motion to nominate Commissioner Kisiah to remain as Chairman. Commissioner Okarma seconded the motion. Chairman Kisiah accepted and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Okarma made a motion to nominate Commissioner Boes to remain as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Ray seconded the motion. Commissioner Boes accepted and the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Approval of Minutes** – Meeting of June 13, 2019

Commissioner Ray made a motion to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes for June 13, 2019. Commissioner Daly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Appearance by Citizens** - none

**8. Reports**

- a. Update on Parks & Recreation Master Plan.** Ms. Taylor Ladd announced LOSE Design out of Tennessee has been chosen as the consultant for this master plan. LOSE Design has developed over 900 parks and recreation projects across the Country. Mr. John Lavender will be the point of contact. Anticipated cost: \$100,000. LOSE Design will conduct “Kick-off” meetings with Town staff, the Parks & Recreation Commission, the Parks & Recreation Master Plan Task Group August 19 – 21, 2019. Approximately two weeks later LOSE Design will hold public focus group meetings. LOSE Design will provide their recommendations to Town staff prior to the Town Council workshop in December. We would like to have as much

community involvement as possible. Public notice will be placed on the Town's website, social media and media releases.

On Monday, July 15, 2019, the Our Plan Group will host an open house in the Living Lab for a progress review of Hilton Head Island-Our Plan.

Discussion continued on the resources available to get the notice of the LOSE Design public focus group meetings out to the community such as: the Island Recreation Center, Boys & Girls Club, pickleball groups, baseball associations etc. It was also suggested that the Commissioners take the lead with reaching out to as many sporting entities as possible.

**9. Unfinished Business** – Chairman Kisiah suggested that Mr. Frank Soule, Island Recreation Center work with Town staff to compile a list of fields that would benefit from having synthetic turf installed and prepare for proper funding.

**10. New Business** - None

**11. Park Updates**

**a. Update on Celebration Park construction.** Ms. Marcy Benson reported the following:

- Construction for the park is on schedule to be completed fall of 2020.
- The path along Pope Avenue should be complete by the end of July/first of August.
- The plan is to begin to dewater the lagoon after the July 4th weekend. As part of this lengthy process the remaining lagoon wildlife will be relocated to other parks on the island.
- The existing trees in the park have had any vines and dead branches removed. Significant trees will receive a deep root feed later this month.
- The contractor is working to open the restroom and additional parking by St. Patrick's Day 2020. (meaning more parking next tourist season before the park opens)
- We should see buildings begin to go vertical in August.

Chairman Kisiah requested Mr. Chris Darnell, Urban Designer, come to the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting in August with another update on the Celebration Park.

Commissioner Ray asked about the Cordillo Courts renovation. Mr. Liggett responded four tennis courts have been marked to play both pickleball and youth tennis. Commissioner Ray said these courts are too small and the existing net is too low for pickleball; all the lines are very confusing. Mr. Liggett offered to come to the August Parks & Recreation Commission meeting with a more detailed update on Cordillo Court.

**12. Park Commissioner Comments.**

Chairman Kisiah stated this Commission is off to a good start and looking forward to working with the consultant. The Parks & Recreation Master Plan will require a lot of work but this Commission is up for this task.

**13. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**Submitted by:** Eileen Wilson, Secretary

**Approved:** August 8, 2019