

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Date: January 28, 2019

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Members Present: Marc Grant, David Ames, Tamara Becker

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Scott Liggett, Josh Gruber, Brian Hulbert, Shawn Colin, Jennifer Ray, Charles Cousins, Emily Sparks, Jayme Lopko

Others Present: Tom Lennox, Bill Harkins, *Council Members*, Lou Benfante, President, *Heritage Library Foundation*

Media Present: None

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. FOIA 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.

3. Committee Business:

Approval of Minutes: November 26, 2018 – Council Member Ames moved to approve. Council Member Grant seconded. The minutes from the November 26, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Approval of 2019 Proposed Meeting Dates: Council Member Ames motioned to approve. Council Member Becker seconded. The 2019 Proposed Meeting Dates were unanimously approved.

4. Unfinished Business

None

5. New Business

• **Lease of Property Adjacent to Zion Chapel of Ease to Heritage Library**

Emily Sparks, Project Lead said the Committee had before them a recommendation from staff to forward a recommendation to Town Council to approve the Lease of the Town Owned Property adjacent to the Zion Chapel of Ease to the Heritage Library Foundation (Heritage.) Heritage owns and maintains the St. Luke's Parish Zion Chapel of Ease Cemetery at the intersection of Mathews Drive (William Hilton Parkway) and Folly Field Road. Heritage has proposed opening the Saint Luke's Parish Zion Chapel of Ease History Park (History Park) and is requesting that Town Council consider a long term lease of the adjacent historic property owned by the Town to Heritage for construction of the History Park. Under the leasing arrangement, the property would operate as a public park.

Heritage submitted a project description and a conceptual site plan to the Town of Hilton Head Island outlining the proposed scope of work. This leasing arrangement would enable Heritage to establish parking areas, a visitor pavilion with interpretive signage, a replica militia muster house, improvement of vehicular traffic ingress and egress, accessibility to Town of Hilton Head Island pathways, a wood dock/observation platform, and a viewing platform/overlook.

The addition of the History Park will promote and preserve a historic site, enhance access to and enjoyment of history, and highlight a unique cultural-heritage tourism asset while adding a centrally located public site for educational outreach and guided reflection relative to the pre-Twentieth Century periods on the Island.

Key components of the lease are as follows:

- The property will remain open as a public park
- The lease is contingent upon the adoption of an Ordinance by the Town
- The initial term is 45 years with a renewal option

After a brief discussion, Council Member Ames moved to forward a recommendation to Town Council to approve the lease of the Town owned property adjacent to Zion Chapel of Ease to the Heritage Library Foundation. Council Member Becker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park MOU Renewal & Lease Amendments**

Jayne Lopko, Senior Planner recommended the Committee forward a recommendation to Town Council to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park for an additional two (2) years and approve amendments to the lease of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park to the Mitchelville Preservation Project, Inc. (MPP.)

The approved MOU related to the former Fish Haul Creek Park or Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park is expiring and requires review by the Town and Mitchelville prior to the expiration in April, 2019. Approval of the updated MOU will reflect the approved park name change and will extend the term of the MOU, which is set to expire, for an additional two years. Approval of the updated lease will correctly reflect the approved park name change, will provide Mitchelville with more flexibility regarding events, and will extend the deadline for approval of their Business Plan to coincide with the approval of the Master Plan, both of which are currently underway. To address these issues, an updated MOU and amended lease have been prepared to bring the information up-to-date.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Ames moved to forward a recommendation to Town Council to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) related to Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park for an additional two (2) years and approve amendments to the lease of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park to the Mitchelville Preservation Project, Inc. (MPP.)

6. Adjournment

Council Member Ames moved to adjourn. Council Member Becker seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen D. Knox
Senior Administrative Assistant