



Town of Hilton Head Island
Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Present from the Committee: Jim Fluker, *Chairman*; Cecile Eck, Margaret Johnson, John Farrell, Martin Lesch, and Keith Schlegel

Absent from the Committee: Stephen Arnold

Present from Town Council: None

Present from Town Staff: John Troyer, *Director of Finance*; Erica Madhere, *Budget Analyst*; and Shena Smith, *Finance Assistant*

Present from the Media: 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. Roll Call- See as noted above.

4. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Chairman Fluker requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Johnson moved to approve the agenda as submitted and Mr. Lesch seconded. By show of hands, the motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

5. Approval of Minutes-None

6. Appearance by Citizens

Shena Smith, Committee Secretary, stated that comments concerning agenda items were to be submitted electronically via the Town's Open Town Hall portal. The public comment period closed the day prior to the meeting at 4:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the Open Town Hall, there were no comments submitted, however there was one citizen who requested to speak in person.

At the time of appearance by citizens and again prior to the Chairman adjourning the meeting, Mr. Skip Hoagland was not present.

7. Unfinished Business – None

8. New Business

Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager addressed applicants and committee members regarding the Housing Impact Analysis process and noted that the study would not be completed by December and therefore would not impact the 2024 Accommodations Tax Grant.

a. Hearing of Applicants

The following applicants made presentations to the Committee during the morning session:

1. Habitat for Humanity of the Lowcountry
2. World Affairs Council of Hilton Head Island
3. Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance
4. Lowcountry Gullah
5. The Heritage Library Foundation
6. Mitchelville Preservation Project
7. The Sandbox
8. Long Cove Club
9. Hilton Head Island Airport

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 12:43 p.m. During the afternoon session, the following applicants made presentations to the Committee.

10. Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra
11. Lean Ensemble Theater
12. The Outside Foundation
13. Sea Pines Forest Preserve
14. Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice
15. David M. Carmines Memorial Foundation
16. Hilton Head Island St. Patrick's Day Parade
17. Gullah Museum of Hilton Head Island
18. Paul Miller fund
19. University of South Carolina
20. Hilton Head Audubon Society

During the presentation of the Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice, Mrs. Johnson disclosed a potential conflict of interest and did not participate. The required disclosure forms are on file.

9. Chairman's Report

After the presentations concluded, Chairman Fluker thanked everyone for taking the time to present to the committee and reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Thursday October 19th at 9:00 a.m.

10. Adjournment

At 3:28 p.m. Mr. Fluker adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by: Shena Smith, Secretary

Approved: October 30, 2023