



# Town of Hilton Head Island ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, October 16, 2025, 9:00 AM Minutes

## Call to Order

Vice Chair Lesch called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Committee Members Present: Martin Lesch, Vice-Chair; Thomas Dowling; Cecile Eck; John Farrell; Dave Ferguson; and Adriaan Radder

Committee Members Absent: Keith Schlegel, Chair

## Adoption of the Agenda

**Mr. Ferguson made a motion to amend the agenda to allow for public comment prior to the start of the hearings. Mr. Dowling seconded. Motion carried 6-0.**

## New Business

Hearing of Applicants - Michele Bunce, Senior Grants Administrator

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

- Lowcountry Gullah
- Hilton Head Wine & Food Festival
- Mitchelville Preservation Project
- Hilton Head Wine & Food Festival- HHI Rhythm & Brews
- Hilton Head Island Concours
- Native Island Business Community Affairs Association
- Beach Cat Sailors of Hilton Head Island
- Hilton Head Island Recreation Association

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:13 pm and resumed the meeting at 1:12 pm. During the afternoon session, the following applicants made presentations to the Committee:

- David M. Carmines Seafood Foundation
- The Sandbox
- The Heritage Library Foundation
- Hilton Head Audobon Society
- Lean Ensemble Theater
- Hilton Head Island St. Patrick's Day Parade

- The First Tee of the Lowcountry
- Hilton Head Island Bridge Association
- Art League of Hilton Head
- Palmetto Quilt Guild

Mr. Dowling recused himself from discussion and voting on *The First Tee of the Lowcountry* presentation and discussion due to his relationship with the Boys & Girls Club of Hilton Head Island. Ms. Eck recused herself from the presentation and discussion on the *Beach Cat Sailors of Hilton Head* due to a personal long-time association. Mr. Farrell recused himself from discussion and presentation on *The First Tee of the Lowcountry* grant application as he currently serves on the Board of Directors. The required disclosure and recusal forms are on file.

#### Public Comment - Non Agenda Items

There was no public comment at this time.

#### Adjournment

**At 3:57 pm, Mr. Radder made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dowling seconded. Motion passes 6-0.**

**Approved: November 6, 2025**

**The full recording and a transcript of this meeting can be found on the Town's website at [www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov](http://www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov).**