



**Town of Hilton Head Island
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING
Thursday, November 20, 2025, 3:00 PM
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Chair Bill Zurilla called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. Commissioners in attendance: Bill Zurilla, Charlie Quigg, Christina Kristian, John Parsons, Ruthie Kucharewski, Ray Kisiah, and Michael Manesiotis.

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Adoption of the Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Ruthie Kucharewski and seconded by Michael Manesiotis. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting was made by John Parsons and seconded by Christina Kristian. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion

a. Pathway Safety

Staff and commissioners provided an overview of community concerns and regulatory needs related to bicycles and e-bikes on Town pathways. Discussion included safety, education, enforcement, and pathway maintenance. Staff noted that the Town does not currently distinguish between pedal bicycles and e-bikes in its reporting and emphasized the need for additional community input regarding pathway expectations and appropriate regulation. Committee members discussed developing a uniform policy on allowable bicycle types, reviewing potential speed limits, proposing 12 mph for e-bikes, and enhancing educational outreach for residents and visitors. Future work is suggested by gathering community feedback. There is a need for safety and etiquette education, and exploring technologies for improved incident and accident reporting. Partners, including Bike Walk HHI, plan to collaborate on recommendations for Town Council addressing safety measures, enforcement needs, and regulatory updates. Ongoing efforts will also involve possible coordination on signage, pamphlet materials, and scheduling a meeting with Bike Walk HHI, as well as inviting the Director of Public Safety to a future meeting to discuss safety initiatives. Daily golf cart violations were also noted, underscoring the need for improved enforcement.

6. Presentations

- a. Fiscal Year 2026 Facilities Landscaping and Park Maintenance Efforts Update – Derrick Coaxum, Facilities Director

This presentation will be held at a future meeting date.

- b. Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan Update on the Parks and Pathways Programs – Jeff Netzinger, Engineering & Projects Director and Richard Loudin, Public Projects Program Manager

Capital Improvement — Richard Loudin, Public Projects Program Manager, and Jeff Netzinger, Engineering & Projects Director. Staff presented updates on ongoing park and pathway capital projects. Staff reported that Phase One of the Chaplin Community Park project is underway, with subsequent phases to advance following Council approval. Construction plans for the Crossings Park pickleball complex are expected to move forward in early or fall 2026, with new pickleball courts anticipated to open by Summer 2027; Staff plan to provide community updates as the project progresses and will follow up on budget approval for the construction phase. Staff also provided updates on several park development initiatives. The Taylor Family Park groundbreaking is scheduled for December 8 at 10 a.m., with email notifications to be distributed. Islanders Beach Park construction will begin after Labor Day, with contract awarding planned for July. Construction at Mitchellville Freedom Park is anticipated to begin next fall, pending completion of archaeological work. Commissioners reviewed challenges and strategic priorities related to the Jonesville Pathway project. Staff noted that the pathway remains a priority for Town Council. Upcoming action items include scheduling stakeholder outreach and meetings to address community concerns and gather input on project planning and implementation.

- c. Beach Renourishment Update – Jeff Netzinger, Engineering & Projects Director

Beach Renourishment Update — Jeff Netzinger, Engineering & Projects Director. Staff provided updates on current and upcoming beach management and renourishment activities. Staff reported that the total project budget is \$47.5 million, with expenditures progressing as planned. Central beach renourishment work is scheduled to begin in January and is expected to be completed between March and April 2026, followed by South Beach work, which is projected to conclude by May 2026. The project includes approximately 725,000 cubic yards of sand with a 20% contract flexibility allowance. Staff also outlined upcoming action items, including continued monitoring of beach profiles and erosion patterns. Marinex is expected to complete sand placement by December 10–12, weather permitting, and the contractor will continue daily tracking of sand quantities and budget status.

- d. Island Parks and Recreation Association Update – Frank Soule, Parks and Recreation Executive Director

Island Recreation Association Update — Frank Soule, Parks and Recreation Executive Director.

Staff provided updates on recreation programming, participation levels, and upcoming funding initiatives. Staff reported that free lacrosse and rugby clinics will be offered in December and that participation in the Kids Night Out program will increase from 35 to 50 attendees. A \$300,000 county funding request will be submitted to support ongoing recreation programs, with a resolution scheduled for presentation in January. Staff also shared recreational usage data, noting that the Frisbee golf program recorded 3,136 plays since January, representing 5,852 hours of activity and approximately 1,588,673 calories burned.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

a. Approval of 2026 Meeting Dates

A motion to approve 2026 Parks and Recreation Meeting dates was made by Bill Zurilla and seconded by Michael Manesiotis. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Public Comment - Non Agenda Items

Frank Babel provided recommendations regarding pathways and parks connectivity initiatives to enhance visitor engagement.

10. Commission Business

11. Chairman's Report

12. Staff Report

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.