



**Town of Hilton Head Island
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING
Thursday, June 13, 2024, 3:30 PM
Minutes**

1. Call to Order

Chair Zurilla called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Present were: Chair William Zurilla, Vice-Chair John Parsons and Christina Kristian. Absent were Charlie Quigg, Thomas Dowling and Jack Daly.

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Due to lack of a quorum, the Agenda as presented was not approved.

4. Approval of the Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2024

Due to the lack of a quorum, the Minutes of April 11, 2024 were not approved. They will be presented for approval at the next scheduled Meeting in September.

5. Appearance by Citizens:

No citizens spoke at the meeting and there were no comments received to the Town's Open Town Hall Portal.

6. Presentations

a. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners

Chair Zurilla recognized outgoing Commissioners Thomas Dowling and Jack Daly and thanked them for their service to the Community and the Parks & Recreation Commission.

b. Pathway Maintenance Updates - *Jim Iwanicki, PE, Transportation Program Manager*

Mr. Jim Iwanicki, Transportation Program Manager gave an update on pathway maintenance and improvements and gave an overview of the pathway Assessments that have been done. One of the things the Assessment looked at was where there are holes in the network or where there are places additional pathways could be needed and would help the Community. We are developing an Asset Management Plan for our pathways so that we can talk about maintenance, addressing shoulders, vegetation control and erosion control. The budget for FY 2024 which is coming to a close was \$345,000 which

has all been spent. Some of the big projects that were done were Union Cemetery (\$173,000.00), Mathews Drive (\$50,000), Boardwalk repairs (\$20,000), Edge repairs (\$7000.)

For FY 2025 the budget is \$350,000. We will have to stretch those funds out so that if something unforeseen happens we can deal with it towards the end of the fiscal year.

Some items we have identified are: Point Comfort Road roots and resurface, Cordillo Parkway roots and resurface, Palmetto Bay Road Bridge to Point Comfort edges and resurface, various root intrusions and miscellaneous tree removal, pothole and edge repairs.

Pathways under current design are: Jonesville Road, Cordillo Parkway (Shipyard connection), Dunnagan's Alley, William Hilton Parkway (Shelter Cove Lane to Singleton Beach Road.) We have also been working hard updating Kiosks - Squire Pope and Gumtree Circle, Mathews at William Hilton Parkway and Coligny Circle.

Mr. Iwanicki answered several questions from the Commission and they thanked him for the report.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

a. Consideration of a Resolution to Support Construction of Inclusive Playground - *Bryan McIlwee, PE, Director of Engineering*

Bryan McIlwee, Director of Engineering, stated on the Agenda today is Consideration of a Resolution to Recommend to Town Council Support of a Partnership for an Inclusive Playground. Since we do not have a quorum today, and you cannot vote on the recommendation, we will just talk about the project.

In March 2024, we were approached with an opportunity to partner with a group to develop an inclusive playground on the Island. Churchich Recreation which is a partner of Miracle Recreation, reached out to the Mayor and Town Manager about a partnership between Miracle and Best Buddies. Best Buddies is a non-profit organization. They support inclusion for all sorts of disabilities and handicaps. It is run by Anthony Kennedy Shriver and his mother, who runs the Special Olympics. The Town would be one of the first municipalities in the Country to have this branded inclusive playground that is supported and branded by Best Buddies. This is a great opportunity for the Town to be one of the first in the country to have this playground.

Sue Churchich said that knowing what Hilton Head Island had for park projects, we thought it would be a great fit. We were introduced to the fact that Miracle was going to start a partnership with Best Buddies in January, but it wasn't finalized yet. As it became finalized, we wanted to identify a Municipality that had some park projects on the books

that this would be a great fit for. Primarily, they have been supporting the Intellectual and Development Disabilities Community (IDD). Their mission has been to support the Community, support their caregivers, provide them with opportunities to live and function in society. Through social media, it would be an amazing thing for the Town of Hilton Head to say we are supporting Best Buddies, and we are a Best Buddies community.

What is great about it is that children with disabilities and children without disabilities can use the playground at the same time.

Mr. McIlwee stated that with the recent approval of the Shelter Cove Phase II Expansion Master Plan, it is a perfect opportunity with a beautiful backdrop and I cannot think of a better place to have it.

The Commission was very excited and enthusiastic about the presentation. Mr. McIlwee stated if Town Council supports the Resolution, we can move forward.

9. Commission Business

a. Discussion Related to Future Park Locations

Chair Zurilla displayed a map of Town Owned Property. Vice-Chair Parsons visited a sight at the intersection of Squire Pope and 278 with two large trees. I think we could set up a small park there as it is the gateway to Hilton Head Island. If you clear out the brush, set up some tables and a bike path coming into there from Wild Horse it would be great. Chair Zurilla questioned what could we do to facilitate and get discussions started on this. Mr. McIlwee stated the Commission could vote to recommend this for consideration to Town Council in a future budget year or for inclusion in a Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update as a potential park. Mr. McIlwee reminded Chair Zurilla that there is a meeting with the Town Manager and the Mayor in July which would be a great time for you to talk with the Mayor about how does the Commission bring forward something like this. Chair Zurilla mentioned in the interim if they could clean up the vines and brush. I believe this could be a really nice spot because the trees are large and the canopy is shaded.

10. Chairman's Report

11. Staff Report

a. Staff Report - *Bryan McIlwee, PE, Director of Engineering*

Bryan McIlwee mentioned to the Commission that the Town has split Facilities Management and Public Services and Beach Operations out from underneath him and Derrick Coaxim was just hired as our new Facilities Director. The Chaplin and Crossing Park Master Plans have been approved by Town Council on May 21st. The Fiscal Year 25 Budget was approved by Town Council on June 4th. We had a solicitation out for a design build Contractor for Taylor Family and Patterson Family Parks and anticipate we will be awarding the Contract very soon. The Bristol Sports Arena will be having a public meeting for the design of the skate park and pump track. It will be held at the Sports

Arena on June 27th @ 5:00 p.m.

Mr. McIlwee reminded the Commission that they do not meet in July and August and their next meeting will be September 12th.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Approved: July 11, 2024

The recording of this Meeting can be found on the Town's website at www.hiltonheadislandsc.gov