

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 1 of 5

The Jekyll Island State Park Authority committees met in Public Session on Monday, April 14, 2008 in Beachside Hall at the Jekyll Island Convention Center on Jekyll Island, GA.

Members Present: Ben Porter, Chairman
Michael Hodges, Vice-Chairman
Ed Boshears, Secretary
Steve Croy,
Buddy DeLoach,
Sam Kellett,
Becky Kelley,
Robert Krueger,
Sybil Lynn,
George Zier, Sr. Asst. Attorney General, via speakerphone

Staff Present: Eric Garvey, Director of Marketing,
Marjorie Johnson, Director of Accounting,
Cornell Harvey, Director of Human Resources,
Jim Broadwell, Projects Manager.
Shanna Brain, Executive Assistant,

Various members of the public and press were present.

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Chairman Porter started the meeting with a brief announcement about the process for public comment.

Conservation Preservation Committee: Ms. Frangiamore has applied for a Coastal Incentive Grant in the amount of \$100K however, we may only get \$50K, for interpretive signage for the bike trails and also for signage for wildlife platforms, which we would like to see built. We have picked up on the autobon certification, and have been working on the outreach component, which we would need to have species counts and checklists of birds, butterflies, amphibians, and mammals for, and some kind of demonstration garden. Ms. Frangiamore also gave an update on the Salt Cedar, a very invasive plant, which landscaping helped to remove in the south dunes area starting with the plants closest to the beach and working inward. Committee Chair Hodges gave a brief update on the Conservation Plan, which is still with Mr. Zier. Two awards were presented from the GA Trust to Chairman Porter. One was the Excellence in Rehabilitation Award for the power plant; the second was the Marguerite Williams Award for Historic Preservation for the work on the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Mr. Boshears asked about the Capacity Study. Mr. Broadwell gave a brief update stating the Bleakly

Attendance

Call to order

Conservation
Preservation Committee

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 2 of 5

<p>Advisory Group was here last week and we are just getting started and the study should be completed in about 16 weeks.</p> <p><u>Finance Committee:</u> Committee Chair Krueger went over a request for the purchase of two new trams for the Historic District tours. The old trams are over 25 years old and the purchase of newer trams would allow the tour to be expanded. Committee Chair Krueger called for a motion to approve the purchase of two newer trams in the amount of \$123K. Mr. Croy made the motion, seconded by Mr. Hodges, the motion passed unanimously. Committee Chair Krueger then went over the need to replace the point of sale terminals at Blackbeard's stating the old ones were outdated and no longer compatible with necessary updated software. The cost of the new terminals will be \$6300. Mr. Hodges made the motion to approve the purchase of the new terminals, seconded by Mr. Kellett, the motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Committee Chair Krueger stated they would be moving money from the Beach Nourishment Engineering project to the Revitalization long-term impact study, and also reclassifying \$13K from the Parking fee contingency fund to the Historic District improvements project.</p> <p>Committee Chair Krueger gave a brief update on finances, hotel occupancy, Jekyll Island Arts Association lease, and the budget. He stated all items were on track for the year to date.</p> <p>Committee Chair Krueger proposed that the Finance Committee study residential leases on Jekyll and bring recommendations to the Authority board. He suggested it is appropriate to review these leases now, since they will expire in 2049 and financial institutions that offer loans on residences prefer a financing period of 40 years. Committee Chair Krueger pointed out there are many issues related to this topic and it will take a considerable amount of time and assistance by an outside consultant to assimilate all the facts. Chairman Porter stated this is a good time to start the process and asked the Finance Committee to begin working on it and continue to report back to the Board.</p> <p>Chairman Porter opened the floor to public comment. Mr. Kevin Runner asked questions about finishing Riverview Drive and also if there was anything that could be done to improve cell phone service on the island. Ms. Johnson related there was a contract being worked on with Verizon.</p> <p><u>Personnel Committee:</u> Committee Chair Lynn called on Mr. Harvey to give an update on the Flexible accounts. Mr. Harvey stated that over the next 2.7 years there should be a reduction of 4% - 10% in the cost of benefits and the initial reduction will go into effect on June 1 with employees seeing the reduction in their 1st paycheck in July.</p>	<p>Finance Committee</p> <p>Committee Motion</p> <p>Committee Motion</p> <p>Moving funds</p> <p>Update</p> <p>Residential Leases</p> <p>Public Comment</p> <p>Personnel Committee</p>
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JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 3 of 5

Legislative Committee: Chairman Porter recognized the attendance of Representative Terry Barnard. He thanked Representative Barnard and the Legislature for their efforts on behalf of Jekyll Island State Park Authority during the 2008 legislative session. Committee Chair Croy started off by saying the session had been good for the Authority. One of our successes was the \$25 million proposed by the governor and approved by the legislature to begin the revitalization of the Jekyll convention center. Committee Chair Croy stated he had had an opportunity to spend some time with the Governor recently and the Governor had only good things to say about the progress seen on Jekyll and he wanted to thank the Board for all their work. Committee Chair Croy also said thank you to Mr. Krueger and Chairman Porter for bringing up the residential leases and working on those as it is something that has come up several times.

Chairman Porter asked Representative Barnard to please join the Board and to give his own update. Representative Barnard started by saying he had arrived early on the island and was impressed by the appearance already of the island. Representative Barnard mentioned some of the things brought up at the session this year. Among which were the parking lot, two legislative attempts to dictate uses of property on the island, one by Representative Buckner, on which there was no vote, and one by Senator Chapman, which was voted down in the Senate. Representative Buckner's item, later attached as an amendment to the Coastal Management Act, was again defeated. Representative Barnard also informed the Board of Representative Keen's many hours worked on the Turtle Tag legislation.

Chairman Porter commented on the beachside parking lot, stating it would be increased/enhanced and there would be a public area. He said Ms. Buckner's proposal was moot as the plan had already been changed. Chairman Porter commented on the Turtle Tag, stating he had not anticipated any opposition to the tag and the distribution of funds, however there was some opposition to the tag by persons that did not want to see the DNR's non-game bird program disturbed or any money diverted from it. Chairman Porter went on to say that we did get the Turtle Tag adopted and the money does flow to the non-game wildlife program and we have reasonable assurance that the turtle program will get its share of the Turtle Tag money.

Representative Barnard made a statement to the Authority about the residential properties on the island stating they are a very big issue and asked the Authority to look at them very closely.

Chairman Porter recognized Ms. Debbie Dlugolenski from the Office of Planning and Budget and told her thank you for her group's work on the \$25 million funding in the Governor's budget.

Legislative Committee

Representative Barnard

Parking lot

Turtle Tag

Debbie Dlugolenski

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 4 of 5

<p>Mr. Boshears made a statement about his dissatisfaction with some aspects of the Board.</p> <p>Chairman Porter opened the floor to public comment. There were comments about the parking lot, the fire fee increase, and about the revitalization.</p> <p><u>Marketing Committee:</u> Committee Chair Kellett called on Mr. Joel Babbitt and Mr. Walter Woods of GCI to give a presentation on their proposed branding project. Committee Chair Kellett called for a motion to approve GCI to move forward with their branding project with a cost of \$140K to be paid over 4 months with work to be completed prior to payment being sent, Mr. Croy made the motion, seconded by Ms. Kelley, the motion passed unanimously. Committee Chair Kellett then called on Mr. Garvey to give a brief update. Mr. Garvey updated the Board on the annual fireworks program that the Jekyll Island Authority sponsors every year.</p> <p>Chairman Porter opened the floor for public comment. Comments consisted of resident's being included in discussions with GCI, and declining visitation</p> <p><u>Public Private Partnership:</u> Chairman Porter stated that the JIA continues to meet with Linger Longer Communities (LLC) and they are continuing to get public input. Chairman Porter also stated that as soon as the updated plan is available it would be published.</p> <p>Chairman Porter opened the floor to public comment. There were questions about the building codes, the number of acres used in the proposed plan, development of the maritime forest, opportunities for current merchants, and beach handicap accessibility.</p> <p>Chairman Porter called for a break at 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Chairman Porter called to order the meeting of the Jekyll Island State Park Authority meeting at 1:05 p.m</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes:</u> Board approved minutes of the March 10, 2008 Jekyll Island State Park Authority Board Meeting.</p> <p><u>Board Motion:</u> Mr. Krueger made a motion to amend the agenda to include a personnel matter, Ms. Lynn seconded, the motion passed unanimously.</p> <p><u>Finance Committee:</u> Board approved the Finance Committee's motion to approve the purchase of two newer trams, in the amount of \$123K, for the Historic District tours.</p>	<p>Public Comment</p> <p>Marketing Committee</p> <p>Public Comment</p> <p>Public Private Partnership</p> <p>Public Comment</p> <p>Break</p> <p>Call to order</p> <p>Motion Approved</p> <p>Motion Approved</p> <p>Motion Approved</p>
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JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 5 of 5

Finance Committee: Board approved the Finance Committee's motion to approve the purchase of new point of sale computer terminals, in the amount of \$6,300, for Blackbeards.

Motion Approved

Search Committee: Board approved the Search Committee's motion to move forward in the process of hiring a new Executive Director.

Motion Approved

Marketing Committee: Board approved the Marketing Committee's motion to approve GCI's new Branding projects in the amount of \$140K, to be paid over a 4-month period, in the amount of \$35K per month to be paid after monthly work is complete.

Motion Approved

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Adjourned

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Ben Porter
Chairman of the Board

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 6 of 5

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JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

April 14, 2008

Page 7 of 5

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