



# **HORRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

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Tuesday, March 7, 2023 12:00noon  
Government & Justice Center, Multipurpose Room B, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
1301 Second Ave, Conway, SC 29526

- 1. Call to Order**
  - 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
  - 3. Invocation**
  - 4. Introduction of Board Members**
  - 5. Minutes**
    - Approval of February 7, 2023 Minutes
  - 6. Public Input**
  - 7. New Business**
    - HULK Bike and Run Park MOU with Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association
    - Vereen Memorial Gardens – Trail Name Resolution
  - 8. Discussion**
    - Staff Member Updates
    - Board Member Updates
  - 9. Announcements**
    - Next Keep Horry County Beautiful Litter Coordinators Meeting – March 21, 2023 11:30am in Multipurpose Room B of the Government & Justice Center, Conway
    - April 1, 2023 9:00am-12:00noon – Talking Trash Community Clean Up Day
    - Next Parks and Open Space Board Meeting – May 2, 2023 at 12:00pm in Multipurpose Room B of the Government & Justice Center, Conway
  - 10. Adjourn**
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## HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

### **CHAIR**

1<sup>st</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/24  
District #4

***Robert Ziegler***  
632 Grand Cypress Way  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
e-mail: [robertziegler@aol.com](mailto:robertziegler@aol.com)

Home: 843-215-8978  
Cell: 917-734-5814

### **VICE CHAIR**

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/25  
District #1

***Suzanne Pritchard***  
2234 Dykman Circle  
Little River, SC 29566  
e-mail: [lspritchard@gmail.com](mailto:lspritchard@gmail.com)

Office: 843-280-5572  
Cell: 843-455-7699

1<sup>st</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/25  
District #3

**VACANT**

1<sup>st</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/24  
District #2

**VACANT**

1<sup>st</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/25  
District #5

***Kathy Jellison***  
24 Sandpiper Ct.  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
e-mail: [jellisonkathy@gmail.com](mailto:jellisonkathy@gmail.com)

Home: 843-344-9352

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires 6/30/23  
District #6

***Lisa Davis***  
275 Tibton Circle  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588  
e-mail: [ldavis4@ups.com](mailto:ldavis4@ups.com)

Home: 843-450-0753  
Office: 843-236-5279

1<sup>st</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/23  
District #7

***Melvin Spain***  
1561 Hemingway Chapel Rd  
Conway, SC 29527  
e-mail: [melvin3685@gmail.com](mailto:melvin3685@gmail.com)

Home: 843-455-3685

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/24  
District #8

***Dr. Sarah Diaz***  
117 Furman Circle  
Conway, SC 29526  
e-mail: [sbanks@coastal.edu](mailto:sbanks@coastal.edu)

Home: 828-773-2246  
Office: 843-349-6611

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/25  
District #9

***Thomas Mezzapelle***  
236 Cox Lane  
Longs, SC 29568  
e-mail: [autoxdrv@gmail.com](mailto:autoxdrv@gmail.com)

Home: 843-602-1419  
Cell: 843-349-2180

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/25  
District #10

***William Kevin Gause***  
3800 Gurley Rd  
Loris, SC 29569  
e-mail: [wkgause@sccoast.net](mailto:wkgause@sccoast.net)

Home: 843-254-9795  
Office: 843-365-9800

2<sup>nd</sup> Term Expires: 6/30/23  
District #11

***Samuel T. Johnson, Jr***  
11975 Pee Dee Rd S  
Galivants Ferry, SC 29544  
e-mail: [sam@seedslingers.com](mailto:sam@seedslingers.com)

Home: 843-358-0736  
Cell: 843-907-0723

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF HORRY )

**Horry County Parks & Open Space  
Parks & Open Space Board Meeting  
Tuesday February 7, 2023**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board met on Tuesday, February 7, 2022 at 12:00 pm at the Government & Justice Center, Multipurpose Room B in Conway, SC 29526. The following Parks & Open Space Board members were present: Robert Ziegler, Kathy Jellison, Lisa Davis, Sarah Diaz, Thomas Mezzapelle, and Samuel T. Johnson Jr.

Staff present: Interim Director, Ashley Cowen.

Board members absent: Melvin Spain, William Kevin Gause, and Suzanne Pritchard.

The following visitors attended: none.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Robert Ziegler called the meeting to order at approximately 12:09 pm. Chairman Ziegler led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

### **INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Chairman Ziegler asked all Board members to introduce themselves and announce their County Council District.

### **MINUTES**

#### **Approval of December 6, 2022 Minutes**

Chairman Robert Ziegler entertained a motion to approve the December 6, 2022 minutes. Thomas Mezzapelle made a motion to approve the December 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes with the amendment on one scrivener's error. Samuel Johnson Jr. seconded the motion. There was no discussion. *The motion to approve the December 6, 2022 Parks and Open Space Board Meeting minutes carried unanimously.*

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

There was no public input.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Keep Horry County Beautiful Committee Appointment**

Chairman Ziegler introduced topic and gave an overview. The applicant was not present. Cassandra LaValley is currently the Sustainability Coordinator for Sustain Coastal and formerly the Project Manager and Field Director at Conservation Voters of South Carolina. She is seeking her MBA at CCU with a graduation date of Spring 2025. She does not serve on any other Horry

County Boards or Commissions. Ms. LaValley is willing and eligible to serve in this capacity. Appointment by the Parks and Open Space Board to the Keep Horry County Beautiful Committee will result in Cassandra LaValley being appointed to her first full 3-year. Kathy Jellison made a motion to appoint Cassandra LaValley to Keep Horry County Beautiful with a term expiring in December 2025. Lisa Davis seconded the motion. Seeing no discussion, Mr. Ziegler called the motion to vote. ***The motion Cassandra LaValley to Keep Horry County Beautiful with a term expiring in December 2025 carried unanimously.***

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **2023 Meeting Schedule**

Chairman Ziegler introduced the agenda item and gave an overview. The Board discussed meeting dates including the removal the April and December meetings from the proposed schedule. Sarah Diaz made the motion to approve the meeting schedule with removal of the April and December dates from the calendar, and July and November being the next possible cancellation dates if no meeting topics were available. Lisa Davis seconded the motion. Seeing no further discussion, Chairman Ziegler called for the vote. ***The motion to approve the 2023 Meeting Calendar with the amendment carried unanimously.***

## **PRESENTATION**

### **PARD GRANTS**

Chairman Ziegler introduced the agenda item and asked staff to give the presentation. Ms. Cowen gave a brief overview of what Parks and Recreation Development Fund (PARD) Grants are, how funding is allocated, and what types of projects are eligible. Ms. Cowen informed the Board that Horry County Parks and Recreation has been granted two (2) new PARD awards, in addition to the 3 existing awards.

The Michael Morris Graham PARD Grant project has been awarded \$39,004.88. The project includes resurfacing the access road with coquina, renovation of fencing, installation of bleachers, and other needed renovations before the July 7-11, 2023 State Tournaments. Staff are working with the Aynor Area Athletic Association to identify needed repairs and renovations. Grant must be completed by September 2023.

The Lees Landing Circle Park PARD Grant project has been awarded \$19,790.17. Staff will work with a small group of community members to design and provide an improved river access area, picnic facilities, small parking area, and trash/fishing line receptacles. Grant must be completed by October 2024.

The Socastee Recreation Park Playground PARD Grant has been awarded \$59,370.17. This grant will renovate the playground including new structure, enclosure, and mulch. Grant must be completed by October 2024

The Socastee Yacht Basin Playground PARD Grant has been awarded \$36,693.75. This grant will demo, purchase and install a new playground and components for the Socastee Yacht Basin Park. Grant must be completed by January 2026.

The Pee Dee Park Playground PARD Grant has been awarded \$36,693.75. This grant will demo, purchase and install a new playground and components for the Socastee Yacht Basin Park. Grant must be completed by January 2026.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Staff Updates**

Staff gave a brief update on the upcoming programming happening in Horry County through Parks and Recreation.

### **Board Member Updates**

Robert Ziegler gave an update on the Quarterly Meeting of the Greater Burgess Community Association which will feature a local horticulturalist lecture on “How to grow things here” at 7:00pm at the South Strand Recreation Center.

Thomas Mezzapelle announced that the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association (MBA2) hosted nearly 400 people, including almost 160 racers, at the HULK. In addition, Mr. Mezzapelle announced a new Disc Golf Course in Conway.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Next Keep Horry County Beautiful Meeting**– March 21, 2023 at 11:30 in Multipurpose Room B of the Government and Justice Center in Conway.

**Next Parks and Open Space Board Meeting** – March 7 at 12:00 pm at the Horry County Government & Justice Center, Multipurpose Room B.

## **ADJOURN**

With no further discussion, Samuel T. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Sarah Diaz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:49 pm.

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Horry County Parks and Open Space Board  
Decision Memorandum  
Horry County, South Carolina

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Date: March 7, 2023  
From: Parks and Recreation  
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation  
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Interim Director  
Regarding: HULK Bike and Run Park MOU with Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association

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**ISSUE:**

Should Horry County Parks & Open Space Board support the HULK Bike and Run Park Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association (MBA2)?

**PROPOSED ACTION:**

Vote to support the proposed MOU.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

The proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was originally entered into between Horry County and the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association (MBA2) in February 2019 for the purpose of development and maintenance of the off road biking trails at the Horry County Bike and Run Park operated by the County in Carolina Forest. The original MOU was effective for one (1) year with three (3) optional automatic one (1) year renewals. The 2023 MOU specifies the same initial and optional renewal time-frames.

**ANALYSIS:**

Among other aspects, the MOU specifies the following obligations:

- Periodically meet to review work plans, budgets, development issues, events and other items associated with agreement.
- All improvements, changes, modifications must be approved by the Horry County Parks and Recreation Director.
- MBA2 to develop plans and specifications for signage system; County to provide signage approved by Director of Parks and Recreation identifying trails, their level of difficulty, and unusually difficult sections.
- Plans and trail specifications per construction standards, design specifications, layout consideration, and trail difficulty rating system promulgated by the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) to be reviewed and approved by the Director of Parks and Recreation.
- MBA2 agrees to inspect trails on monthly basis and maintain trails in safe condition.
- MBA2 may hold organized mountain biking programs and events on site subject to consent of County, including sponsoring or co-sponsoring racing on trails.
- MBA2 shall close access to trails in the event of hazard situation is found on trails until corrective action is take to correct the problem.

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COUNTY OF HORRY )  
 )  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD SUPPORTING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE HULK BIKE AND RUN PARK BETWEEN HORRY COUNTY AND THE MYRTLE BEACH AREA MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION.**

**WHEREAS**, the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association have been developing and maintaining the HULK Bike and Run Park since on or before February 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, it is mutually beneficial for Horry County and the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association to agree to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding; and

**WHEREAS**, Horry County recognizes the importance of providing high quality active and passive recreation facilities and programs to promote the mental, physical, and social well-being of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Horry County Parks and Open Space Board was established to make recommendations on quality open space to meet a wide range of recreational needs for all county residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Open Space Board is charged with providing guidance on recreational sites to be maintained or developed as part of Horry County’s parks and open space network.

**BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED THAT:**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board supports the Memorandum of Understanding for the Development and Maintenance of the HULK Bike and Run Park between Horry County and the Myrtle Beach Area Mountain Biking Association and recommends approval to the Horry County Council.

**AND IT IS SO RESOLVED.**

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

## HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

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Robert Ziegler, District 4  
*Chairperson*

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Suzanne Pritchard, District 1  
*Vice-Chairperson*

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District 2, Vacant

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District 3, Vacant

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Kathy Jellison, District 5

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Lisa Davis, District 6

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Melvin Spain, District 7

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Sarah Diaz, District 8

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Thomas Mezzapelle, District 9

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William Kevin Gause, District 10

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Samuel T. Johnson, District 11



Horry County Parks and Open Space Board  
Decision Memorandum  
Horry County, South Carolina

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Date: March 7, 2023  
From: Parks and Recreation  
Division: Infrastructure and Regulation  
Prepared By: Ashley Cowen, Interim Director  
Regarding: Vereen Memorial Gardens – Trail Name Resolution

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**ISSUE:**

What is the Parks and Open Space Board’s recommendation for the renaming of the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Boardwalk Trail after volunteers Robert and Carol Paterson?

**PROPOSED ACTION:**

Send a Resolution to Horry County Council to approve the proposed renaming for the Boardwalk Trail to “Paterson Trail” at Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee voted unanimously to recommended approval on December 1, 2022. Staff recommends approval.

**BACKGROUND:**

Richard and Carol were recruited by Mr. John Hartwell to volunteer to maintain the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens. As avid volunteers, they 20-25 hours weekly to maintain the park by clearing trails, removing litter and debris, widening narrow sections of trail, recruiting additional volunteers, and leading volunteer teams. Both Carol and Richard serve on the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee. Mr. Patterson serves as the Maintenance and Volunteer subcommittee chairperson. Recently, Mr. Patterson joined the newly formed Budget subcommittee for the Vereen Memorial Gardens Committee. Mrs. Carol Patterson serves as the Vice Chairperson on the Vereen Memorial Gardens Committee.

**ANALYSIS:**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board is granted the General powers and duties through the Horry County Code of Ordinances, Section 15-125 to make recommendations to Horry County Council relating to properties which should be acquired, leased, preserved, protected, maintained, or developed as part of Horry County’s recreational, open space, and natural resource network.

Horry County Code of ordinances, Section 12-2 Naming of parks, building etc. states that when a park, building or similar facility owned by the County is named to honor an individual or organization, specific criteria shall be used. The following are those criteria:

1. Persons may be parties who donated land for the facility or made similar contribution; persons may be family members of such parties, residents or property owners from the community, the council member of the district, or county advisory committees or other community groups.
2. Recommendation by County staff must be given to the County Administrator
3. Upon review by the Administrator, the recommended name(s) shall be submitted to the Chairman of County Council Committee for inclusion of the next agenda.
4. Committee shall review and forward with recommendation to full County Council.
5. Upon review, County Council shall give facility such name as it deems to be in the best interest of the community as a whole and of its citizens, and one which reflects the community's history, geography, leaders, and/or culture.

COUNTY OF HORRY )  
 )  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD  
RECOMMENDING THAT THE BOARDWALK TRAIL AT VEREEN MEMORIAL  
HISTORICAL GARDENS BE RENAMED THE PATTERSON TRAIL.**

**WHEREAS**, Richard and Carol Patterson have dedicated 20-25 hours weekly to clearing, maintaining, securing, and volunteering at the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, both Richard and Carol Patterson are members of the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens Committee, working tirelessly to beautify the gardens; and

**WHEREAS**, Carol Patterson serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens and Richard Patterson serves on both the Budget and Maintenance subcommittees for the Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Horry County recognizes the importance of volunteerism from County residents, businesses, clubs, organizations, and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, Horry County honors the Patterson’s selfless volunteerism at Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens, which provides many other residents and visitors the ability to enjoy the beauty that the park has to offer.

**BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED THAT:**

The Horry County Parks and Open Space Board supports the Board Walk Trail at the Vereen Memorial Historical Gardens be renamed the Patterson Trail and recommends approval to the Horry County Council.

**AND IT IS SO RESOLVED.**

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

**HORRY COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD**

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Robert Ziegler, District 4  
*Chairperson*

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Suzanne Pritchard, District 1  
*Vice-Chairperson*

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District 2, Vacant

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District 3, Vacant

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Kathy Jellison, District 5

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Lisa Davis, District 6

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Melvin Spain, District 7

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Sarah Diaz, District 8

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Thomas Mezzapelle, District 9

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William Kevin Gause, District 10

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Samuel T. Johnson, District 11



## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE 2023

Board Meetings are typically held in the Multi-purpose Room of the Government & Justice Center located at 1301 Second Avenue in Conway, unless otherwise noted. All interested citizens are invited to attend.

Date	Time	Event
February 7, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
March 7, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
May 2, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
June 13, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting & Officer Elections – B Gov&Justice Center
July 11, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center (possible cancellation if un-needed)
August 8, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
September 5, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
October 3, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center
November 14, 2023	12:00 – 1:00PM	Board Meeting – B Gov&Justice Center (possible cancellation if un-needed)

\*According to the Bylaws, the Board must hold *at least* four (4) Meetings annually. Meetings may be changed to a Workshop.