

JEKYLL ISLAND-STATE PARK AUTHORITY

February 19, 2019

The Jekyll Island State Park Authority (JIA) committees met in Public Session on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at the Convention Center on Jekyll Island, GA.

Members Present: Mike Hodges, Chairman
Bob Krueger, Vice Chairman
Bill Gross, Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Jones III
Dr. Buster Evans

Via teleconference: Joy Burch-Meeks
Joe Wilkinson

Members Absent: Commissioner Mark Williams
Trip Tollison

Staff Present: Jones Hooks, Executive Director
Marjorie Johnson, Chief Accounting Officer
Noel Jensen, Sr. Director of Facilities and Public Services
Jenna Johnson, Director of Human Resources
Bruce Piatek, Director of Historic Resources
Daniel Strowe, Legal Associate
Jim Broadwell, Project Manager
Alexa Orndoff, Director of Marketing & Communications
and others

Various members of the public and press were present.

Chairman Mike Hodges called the Committee session to order at 9:30 a.m. Hodges introduced Board members participating via teleconference. A quorum was established.

Historic Preservation/Conservation Committee: Conservation Department Update – Ben Carswell, Director of Conservation, delivered an update on the 2014 Jekyll Island bobcat discovery. Working in conjunction with Penn State, the Jekyll Island Conservation department has been conducting scat research to identify how many bobcats inhabit the island. Through this research it was concluded that there were 3 bobcats, two males and a female. Earlier, one of the males, called Bullwinkle, was found on the north end of Jekyll paralyzed. The Jekyll Conservation team, in cooperation with the Jacksonville Zoo, was able to rehabilitate the bobcat. Through a collar tracking device and wildlife cameras the team was able to confirm the bobcat recovered successfully and was last seen on the Jekyll causeway leaving the island. Carswell believes the one-and-a-half-year-old bobcat left Jekyll as there was no unrelated mate here for him. Through the scat collected, Carswell and his team were able to determine a snapshot of what the bobcats are finding as nourishment. Diet concluded through scat samples: 80% marsh rabbits, 14% deer, 4% rats/mice, 2% mink. Carswell does not believe the bobcat population will persist, and he will be attempting to trap one of the animals. Carswell would like to place a tracking collar on the reproductive female in an effort to learn everything he can about the small population. Once more information is collected, Carswell will engage with colleagues at Georgia DNR to evaluate prospects of population rescue. “As a central part of the Jekyll Island Authority mission, our conservation plan is to do whatever we can to maintain and promote biodiversity on Jekyll Island and bobcats are an important part of that. We believe in the value of predators to stabilize ecosystems and promote diversity.”

Carswell asked if there were any questions. There were no questions nor public comments.

Carswell also recognized team member Joseph Colbert, Wildlife Manager, on receiving his CWB, Certified Wildlife Biologist designation from the Wildlife Society. He is the first Jekyll Island Authority employee to receive this distinction.

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Chairman Hodges called Mr. Bruce Piatek, Director of Historic Resources, to review Historic District projects & present an RFQ for historic district projects.

Bruce Piatek, Director of Historic Resources, stated his team had a busy 18 months. They've completed the wander memory trail. The Fiore sculpture collection is with the Valdosta State University, where it will benefit publicly and academically. This cleared space is in Mistletoe Cottage, where the first phase of wallpaper conservation has started on the sunroom ceiling. Once complete the second phase, reproduction of the wallpaper will be underway.

A living shore line has been installed as a test project to stop the erosion of DuBignon Cemetery. Piatek stated there is approximately 15 to 20 feet of erosion in this location due to surface water runoff. Close to DuBignon Cemetery, is a large Native American Site as well as Horton House. The living shore line will be monitored over the next 12 to 18 months to determine if it is a viable solution.

An application to stabilize brick-disintegration at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center was completed and will continue to be monitored for future applications.

A study of the collections & archives building has been conducted to determine how to better store and systematically organize our collections and archival state records in the event of future hurricane damage.

Piatek stated he and team have been heavily involved in the approximately \$1.3 million of roof replacements and repairs that are currently taking place. Completed are Sans Souci and the Hollybourne Cottage, while the Club Hotel and Mistletoe Cottage are underway.

Piatek recognized Taylor Davis, Historic Preservationist, for doing an outstanding job in identifying new systems of installation as well as working closely with the State and contractors.

Funding for air conditioning installation for Hollybourne Cottage has been established, which will be a significant move toward making the building usable for the public throughout the year. Volunteers this year will be focusing on building and installing the drying yard lattice work, which will aid the public's understanding of the area's historical function.

With the assistance and support of the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island, repair work will be done at Faith Chapel to stop the air ducts from blowing directly on the stained-glass windows.

Piatek and team are looking at restoring the entrance towers, to recreate the look and feel of the 1960s appearance. New crests have been manufactured to replace the deteriorated ones.

Black History Month Program: this educational experience is running Saturdays through February at the south end of the island by the Wanderer Memory Trail. Attendance has been good with higher numbers being seen later in the month. Piatek and team have been speaking to the Phil Morrison Trio, a local jazz ensemble about bringing Jazz music back to the south end of the island as an idea for future Black History Month programs.

Safety & Accessibility: Piatek and team have been conducting paving and mold removal to improve life safety issues and accessibility of all historic buildings. This accumulates to approximately \$6.2 million of improvements to the historic district over the next couple of years.

Executive Director Jones Hooks informed Board Members the RFQ, in their blue folder, is the final draft. Piatek stated that the final dates are all in place. Some of the projects will be significantly intrusive to the interiors of the historic buildings. Therefore, we would like to be selective in the choice of a contractor. We would like the lowest bidder who also can provide knowledge, skills, and abilities from working on other nationally historic buildings. Collaborating with Studio Design Architects we have developed this RFQ which will cover 21 different historic properties. Projects include installing lifts into several of the buildings for accessibility and adding six additional ramps allowing the second floor of many of the historic structures to be seen by the public for the first time. Once

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the Board approves this RFQ we will expeditiously distribute it for consideration and bids. Executive Director Jones Hooks asked the Board Members to look at page 3 – 1.7 of the RFQ to view the key dates.

Krueger asked the Board if there were any questions. There were no questions. Motion to approve by Mr. Jones; seconded by Dr. Evans. Unanimously Approved.

Public comment: Beverly Hopkins, full time Jekyll Island resident, two comments. 1) the Jekyll Island Arts Association retained three of the Fiori pieces as well as the Menaboni original in their permanent collection. These will be put on special display during the art festival in March. 2) Something is growing out of the roof of the Post Office, it needs to be cleaned.

Finance Committee: Committee Chair, Bill Gross, reviewed the financials for the month of January as well as traffic counts, and hotel occupancy and rates.

Revenues for January were \$1,466,317 which reflects a favorable \$28K (2%) variance from budget. Revenues also reflect a favorable \$1.1M (7%) variance from year to date budget and a favorable \$1.6M (10%) variance from prior year to date.

Expenses were \$1,928,248 for January and reflected a favorable budget variance of \$241K for the month and a favorable \$690K budget variance year to date.

The largest variances for the month are:

- Human Resources (-\$105K) – In addition to savings realized from vacant positions, health insurance was \$52K less than budgeted for the month.
- Advertising & Sales (-\$43K), Supplies & Materials (-\$38K) and contracts (-\$38K) – these accounts were all less than budget for the month. The variances are timing related and are expected to be on target with budget by the end of the fiscal year

The Net Operating Cash Loss for the month is \$461,931, which is a \$269K (37%) favorable variance from the budgeted net operating cash loss of \$730,472. Net Operating Cash Income reflects a favorable \$1.8M (706%) year to date variance from budget and a favorable \$661K (47%) variance from prior year to date income.

Traffic Counts:

Total Traffic average January was 78,911 vehicles which was 12,004 more vehicles than January of 2018. The large variance is primarily due to the impact of the ice storm last January.

Hotels – January 2019:

Hotel report, January revenues reported by the hotels. 190,904 more than January of 2018. Occupancy rates 41.0% which is up slightly from 39.7% in 2018. Revenue per available room was \$50.69 which is up from \$47.75 in 2018. Average daily rate ADR was \$123.55 a share which was up from \$120.14 in 2018. Larger increases are due to the ice storm in January 2018, which caused revenues to be lower than normal in 2018.

Secretary Treasurer Gross asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Leases:

Secretary Treasurer Gross called Daniel Stowe, General Counsel, to speak on the first proposed third amendment to the revised and restated lease agreement for the Villas by the Sea. Stowe stated, the lessee in this agreement is Villas by the Sea Condominium Association located at 1175 North Beach View Drive. This amendment concerns the term of the lease and proposes the term be extended for an additional five years which would terminate on December 30 first 2053. The individual unit owners at Villa by the Sea have requested the additional five years extension, to obtain necessary financing from lenders should they sell their unit. Staff recommends that the board approve this proposed 3rd amendment to the lease as it is presented today.

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Secretary Treasurer Gross called for a motion. Motion to approve by Mr. Krueger; seconded by Dr. Evans. Unanimously Approved.

Strowe presented a proposed lease agreement for the beach village for a new business called, The Salt Table. The lease holder would be 'The Salt Table LLC' to be located in the space, formerly occupied by Kennedy Outfitters, located at 31 Main Street Suite 111 in the Beach Village. Annual rent of \$16,565.42 or \$1,380.45 per month is calculated at a square footage price of \$15.31 and would be subject to annual CPI adjustments each year. Additionally, there would be an annual special marketing assessment due in June of each year in the amount of \$1,644.64 and a letter of credit or security deposit would also be due in two times the amount of the of the monthly rent. This proposed establishment would sell various salts, teas, seasoning-blends, dips, oils, vinegar, popcorn, wine and other products. This business has their own proprietary line of recipes and products and currently have four other locations, two of which are in the Savannah area. They have a production facility in Pooler as well. Strowe introduced the company's owner, Dave Legasse, who was present.

Executive Director Hooks stated we have met with Dave and he fits our goal for the tenants based in the retail village, in that he already has other locations, he is not a national chain, and he's been in business now for over a year. We are delighted to welcome him. he has been looking at Jekyll Island and hoping that space would become available.

Secretary Treasurer Gross called for a motion. Motion to approve by Dr. Evans; seconded by Mr. Jones. Unanimously Approved.

Chairman Hodges welcomed Dave as a new retailer to Jekyll.

Emergency Capital Request:

Chief Operations Director Noel Jensen explained during a routine maintenance three blower motors were taken apart and found to need repair or replacement. Typically, the maintenance budget they keep is about \$3,000 to do any minor repairs to this equipment. After dismantling them down we realized that their function was not going to be achieved without a lot of rework and that rework would have totaled about \$18,000 in parts for the three blower motors and houses. Staff determined the price to replace all the parts with new parts was \$23,590. This means, for just \$6,000 more we could most likely get another 10 to 12 years out of this equipment that operates the wave pool. Jensen recommended buying new equipment in lieu of spending \$18,000 to repair the existing parts. Board members were reminded this is not the same discussion that we had a month ago pertaining to summer waves equipment. We had gone through almost every piece of equipment in the waterpark to try to get ahead of maintenance issues before the capital requests presented last month. These are just three pieces of equipment we hadn't gotten to in that time.

Secretary Treasurer Gross called for a motion. Motion by Mr. Jones to approve; seconded by Mr. Krueger. Unanimously Approved.

Human Resources:

Buster Evans stated no report this month, look forward to joining you back next month.

Marketing Committee:

Joy Burch-Meeks called Nancy Kring-Rowan, Events Manager & Kevin Udell, Director of Sales to present this month's Marketing Report in lieu of a Senior Marketing Director. The Senior Marketing Director position is currently posted.

Kring-Rowan welcomed back the Jekyll Island Marathon with over 542 participants on January 28th. Jekyll Island Authority has partnered with Peak Racing & Quintanar Running Co. to conduct this Boston Marathon qualifying race.

In February, over 3000 guests attended Whiskey Wine and Wildlife (W3), a partnership between the Westin, Jekyll

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Island Authority and the ADFISH Group. W3 brings a four-day culinary event to Jekyll with multiple events from wine pairings all the way to wine cruises and classes. This year a raptor event was also added.

The Turtle Crawl returns this year. To date, we have 198 more participants than we did 16 days out last year, with a total of 520 participants. We moved the race out of turtle season, which helps us to be on the beach for a one-mile fun run.

Our partners in the beach village, Britney's Closets and Seaside Sunglasses, will have their second annual 'Fur Babies & Fashion,' which benefits No-kill Glynn County.

The Jekyll Island Book Festival will be happening Saturday, April 6th, 2019, in the Beach Village. Although, the festival itself happens on Saturday, it actually kicks-off the night before at the Club Hotel, where you can have an evening with the authors, a southern dinner and book signing event. We have over nine presenting authors. We've had to expand the footprint of the festival this year to spread out through the Beach Village. We will be using many of our partners throughout the Beach Village such as Jekyll Island Market, the Wee Pub, and the Westin.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 20th in the historic district.

The grand opening of the Mosaic will be April 27th. We're working on the calendar for the Beach Village events so we're booking bands for the music series. We're picking up movies for 'Movies on the Green' and we just signed a contract with Disc-Connected K9's, a professional frisbee dog show, which will be with us on May 26th. They'll be doing three shows in the Beach Village which will be free to the public.

Independence Day fireworks will be on Thursday, July 4th.

Kring-Rowan asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Sales Update:

Udell, gave a sales update. We run on a June-July fiscal year, but it is good timing to run through calendar 2018. We surpassed the budget of \$3.6 million by 20% or about \$740,000. This is an all-time record of \$4.3 million for a calendar year. 2018 was a very good year for us. In fact, the Convention Center has exceeded the budget nearly every year since we've opened up in 2012. We posted a record 228 group leads, showing the demand is strong. We also plan to attend another record number of shows this year. Out of the 228 group leads, 100 went to contract. Since we started in calendar year 2019, we've sent out 20 group leads to our hotel partners for about 8,200 plus attendees. eight of those groups have converted to definite with 5,000 attendees & ten of those groups have converted to tentative with 4,400 attendees. Beyond 2019, we already have 120 definite groups with approximately 75,000 attendees. This brings an estimated economic impact of approximately \$30 million for the island.

Just a quick note, one of our good planners had a 700-person conference coming in June. She was here with her daughter to get away and have a nice Presidents Day weekend recently. We went to lunch and talked and just in the midst of talking she said, "I love this island so much and how it's changed, that I'm working on another 700-person group for another client, and I insisted that it's got to be Jekyll." Once people come here and see Jekyll, it's just amazing to see that conversion rate which is about 40% right now and very satisfying.

September, October & November were as strong as June and really March, April, & May or just about the same level of business. There are just a couple of months through the year where we could use a little extra filler business. But, we had a year where one February weekend had 4,000 people with the gymnastics event and W3 and you couldn't get a room on this island that weekend. So that was very exciting to see that.

Hooks asked Board members to look at August on the sales chart, noting that three years ago when school went back in session the Convention Center activity would drop, leaving August a very slow month. This is not the case anymore. In December, we have been successful in bringing in additional groups as well. A lot of emphasis is being placed on trying to move groups around to maximize the calendar and attract groups during periods where we historically have been low.

Udell asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Public comment: Pat Overhaul, stated she would like to highlight the Jekyll Singers Concert on March 19th. Join us here in the Convention Center on March 19th at 7:00 o'clock.

Legislative Committee:

Joe Wilkinson, Chair spoke via teleconference - Currently in the legislature, there are urging resolutions, Senate resolution 88 and House Resolution 48. These are bipartisan efforts, they want to let our congressmen and senators know that Georgia takes an official position against oil drilling and seismic testing off the Georgia coast. All the local legislators are co-sponsors. They tried this last year without success.

We have also been talking about the Jekyll campground. It is a very successful amenity that has about an 80 percent occupancy rate. The campground needs to expand and overnight fees cannot fund this needed expansion. So, we are talking with the governor's office for a \$1.1-million line item in the budget for 2020 to make this happen. Given our track record, I feel very confident we will be able to get these funds in the next year or two.

Public comment: None.

Committee of the Whole:

Chairman Hodges called Daniel Strowe, General Counsel, to address the first reading of Chapter 24 – Traffic & Motor Vehicles; Sec. 24-5 Shared Mobility Devices. Strowe stated, this is the first reading of a proposed ordinance which would be a new section 24-5 entitled shared mobility devices. Following the meeting, this proposed draft would be available for public comment and further revision if needed. Following the process, a Final Draft would be presented to the board at the next meeting for further consideration and highlighting any proposed changes. This ordinance deals with the operation and regulation of shared mobility devices on Jekyll Island for example, electronic scooters & bicycles which are powered by a motor. You may be familiar with these if you have been to Atlanta recently. A user rents the device, typically through an app on your phone or via credit card. The user would then operate it, leaving the device where ever the user is going. Many of the companies that operate these devices do not work with the local municipality and simply show up and place the devices. Any sort of regulation occurs after the fact. We have witnessed across the country that these devices being left in the streets, sidewalks and public right of ways, creating a safety hazard and distraction to pedestrians and other sidewalk users. We are proposing an ordinance that would proactively address the hazards created by these devices. Specifically, this ordinance would prohibit the use of shared mobility devices from being placed or used throughout Jekyll Island. Any violation of the ordinance would be subject to a fine and or impoundment of the device by the authority or designee. Again, we have received no indication that there is interest in placing these devices on Jekyll Island; however, we feel this is a necessary step to ensure we are ahead of the issue, rather than having these devices show up and negatively impact our bike paths and walkways. Today would serve as the first reading which will be posted & available for public comment. We will take any comments or revisions into consideration before again presenting to the Board.

Executive Director Hooks – I've had experience with these devices in other communities, where the renter rents the device with their cell phone or credit card and then just leaves the device wherever, littering the bike paths. Recently, I was on the Georgia Tech campus and these devices were everywhere, you stumble around them as you maneuver the sidewalks, while other people pick them up and throw them in trashcans, making them a serious issue for litter as well as safety concerns.

General Counsel Strowe - Athens just recently took action prohibiting them. Savannah had them pop-up overnight and took action after the fact to prohibit them. I should also mention that motorized vehicles such as these are prohibited on our bike paths. This is just another explicit ordinance that would make it clear that these devices would fall under that prohibition as well.

Bill Gross, Chair – I was in Denver last week and they're everywhere, not only on the sidewalks but they're in the street, people just leave them in the street. It's a problem.

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Executive Director Hooks – Anywhere people enjoy being outdoors they're showing up which is what bothers us about the possibility for a place like Jekyll Island. There is a specific exclusion in the ordinance proposal for an individual who happens to own one of these scooters, as they are not renting it out. It's just the idea of trying to prevent the mass numbers. of them. Is that correct Daniel? General Counsel Strowe, yes that is correct.

Chairman Hodges – Thank you, we'll consider this at our next meeting.

Executive Director Hooks – The group that presented the marina condo concept at the last Board Meeting has contacted us with an official name request. The name they've requested is 'The Moorings at Jekyll Harbor.' Our internal naming committee that reviews name requests to ensure no duplicates and no public safety issues met and concluded there did not appear to be any issues. Therefore, it is our recommendation that the name requested be approved.

Chairman Hodges called for a motion. Motion to approve made by Dr. Evans; seconded by Mr. Jones. Unanimously Approved.

Chief Operations Director Noel Jensen – Jekyll Island Airport update, a lot of activity has been taking place at the airport. Some completed projects: design taxiway, construct taxiway, apron crack seal of the runway and remarking, design and construct new security fencing and gates. In FY 2019 there are a couple of projects: design and build 5,000-gallon 100LL fuel facility, the RFQ for this is due this Friday. GDOT will be here to collect the RFQ's and in March we will present to you the low apparent bidder for approval. Also, a design lighting rehabilitation, we are hoping gets delayed slightly as GDOT aviation is considering approving LCD lights for use and reimbursement on other state airports. I would rather do this if we are allowed than to install incandesce lights back out there. A survey for runway safety area found some trees are located in the primary surfaces. DOT is going to require we have obstruction lights on these trees. It is our duty to make sure those historic oak trees are not trimmed up or taken out. So, we negotiated with the FAA and GDOT aviation to let us light them properly for safety. Also, in 2020 DOT will design some runway safety improvements for the other end of the runway which will be a threshold lighting change. In addition, a DBE update will be conducted that will last through 2023. In Summary, in FY 19 we've completed about \$370,000 worth of projects with the Jekyll Island Authority only having to fund \$18,500 of that. Proposed FY 2020 improvements total \$189,000 with the Jekyll Island Authority projected contributions at \$9,450. That is a 3-year total of \$801,303 in investments toward improvements to the airport with the Jekyll Island Authority contributions at \$40,065. That is a pretty good return on our dollar. The aviation community, including the guests that fly into Jekyll frequently, are excited about Jekyll getting fuel, so they don't have the leave here and go to St. Simons or Brunswick to fill up before they go home.

Chief Operations Director Noel Jensen asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director, Jones Hooks - There is a revitalization project update, in your folder. The Home2 Suites is still anticipating opening in the summer and is over 50% complete.

I spoke with the owners of Quality Inn yesterday about Quality Inn not being completed; they assured me completion is near. They ran into some flooding based on drainage issues they had in some new rooms which they had to go back and redo. Eight rooms were affected.

We have already talked about the Mosaic and how exciting that is going to be. The public grand opening will be April 27th.

The Jekyll Ocean Oaks: all 39 units of the project, are now sold.

The beach revetment rehabilitation phase 2, it is important to note that the proposal to use upland sand has been approved. This will positively impact the cost as well as the time schedule. Rather than have to barge material from outside Savannah there will be an upland source which it appears the DNR is in full support of. We are waiting on

a few things, but the contract should be finalized by the end of the week.

The Marriott Courtyard Residence Inn project was supposed to have received their commitment letter and \$33 million plus term sheet from WSFS Bank. Dave Curtis has assured me that all will be in order and ready for his presentation & update before the Board at your March meeting. You may remember the revised construction commencement date is now May 15th, 2019, which is approaching very quickly.

Joy brought up the fact that we are now advertising for the senior marketing position and in Bill's report he noted how personal costs were a savings, the reason for this savings is due to several significant vacant positions. We have just hired a new General Manager for the Mosaic and we are advertising for the General Manager of the Georgia Sea Turtle center. That position had some delays, but that's all been resolved, and we're moving forward now. Unfortunately, my Executive Assistant Linda de Medicis, left about a week ago to pursue personal goals. Along with those positions we have several others in roads & grounds and landscape that we are in the process of filling, which is the reason for the budget shortfall for this expenditure.

A project of Cherry Street Energy, the Jekyll Island Solar Farm, occupies 4 acres in a former landfill site. The energy from this particular project will be transmitted to the Georgia Power Grid. Georgia Power estimates this project will generate enough power to provide electricity to the equivalent of 113 Jekyll homes. This power is sustainable and is the largest solar farm on state-owned-land in the state of Georgia. To show you how far we've come so quickly, you saw the stats from Kevin about the Convention Center which has been open for just about six years, which means that we were looking at construction and design of the Convention Center approximately eight years ago. Jim Broadwell and I had numerous conversations about solar and trying to locate a company that would look at solar. I personally had a conversation with the Georgia Public Service Commission Chairman at that time about solar. I recall that conversation well because he said, "Son you probably need to talk to somebody else if you're really interested in solar because I'm not interested." Again, this is a private partner joining us on Jekyll. They have a good track record of constructing safe and reliable systems and have worked well with our Fire, and Conservation departments in creating appropriate buffers around the facility. This project ties in with where we want to go with our sustainable efforts. We are hoping to have the project start capturing energy within the next month.

The Mosaic entrance pricing will mirror that of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. That will be \$9 for adults, children ages 4-12 \$7, children 3 and under free. Of course, there will be discounts for senior citizens and for large groups and tour groups. But the basic entry fee will be like that of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. Also, we are looking into bundling together entrance fees, which is something that we've not been able to do before, and Mr. Kruger has always pushed for. We plan to bundle entrance fees into the Mosaic and the Georgia Sea Turtle Center allowing a guest to purchase admittance at either location. You'll be able to buy an adult ticket for \$15 and a children's ticket for \$12 which would allow you entrance into both facilities.

There have been several traffic accidents, some of them serious, at the intersection of the Jekyll Island Causeway and Highway 17. This has been something that we as well as the citizens have been concerned about. Even before these incidences, 2 years ago I asked Georgia DOT to put the causeway on their planning calendar because of the increased usage. Furthermore, if you come from Brunswick to Jekyll you will notice that the intersection is not aligned perfectly. Senator Ligon has gotten involved and is very interested in resolving this dangerous situation. As a result of his involvement and other concerns expressed directly, we have recently heard from Georgia DOT. They stated that while the project would not qualify for their quick-response-funding, they were hopeful that by this summer they would be able to show us progress in moving forward with improvements. We will continue to work with Senator Ligon's office and following up with DOT to ensure this particular project is kept on the front burner.

JIA Budget process has started for FY 2020, you can expect the budget presentation at your May 21st Board Meeting.

Caring capacity study, I followed up with Mr. Tate after the last Board Meeting regarding his concerns. Since then, I've had a meeting with two professors of hospitality from the College of Coastal Georgia who have a special interest in guest experience within hospitality. We are considering how to measure, not just the quantitative aspects of tourism but the qualitative. I expect to receive a proposal from the CCGA within the next few months, which could be very helpful for us moving forward. On the flip side, I would not give us a very good grade for the weekend of February 8th through the 10th when we had a perfect storm of Whiskey, Wine and Wildlife, a soccer tournament and

a huge gymnastics event. With different promoters handling different activities, we noticed some areas in need of improvement. Due to this situation, we have had discussions and will have additional follow-up discussions to look at addressing some areas differently, for instance, parking and garbage. In an attempt to get a better handle on festivals, through our Conservation Department we hired a consultant to be on the island during Whiskey, Wine and Wildlife to look at sustainability issues, because with so many tastings a lot of disposable ware is created. We want our events to be sanitary as well as safe, but at the same time not create an overabundance of disposable goods. We will have a report from the consultant in the next few months.

Reforestation efforts are underway, as you'll remember we lost a lot of trees during the last two hurricanes. We've had a lot of help from the local Rotary Club and the Georgia Forestry Commission in helping to plant seedlings. Unfortunately, a lot of those were lost due to overgrowth, lack of water and deer. However, there were quite a few that did make it. I've been talking to Cliff Gawron, Director of Landscape, and we're hoping that we can get another 500 seedlings from Georgia Forestry and that we can enlist the help of the Rotary Club to help plant again. The planting areas this year will be the Small and Large Dorm areas, the Historic District and the new parking lot areas at Oceanview Beach Park as well as the Captain Wiley - Beachview intersection, where we lost an oak tree. The effort will include 93 trees being planted and 50 of those will be live oaks. This process has already begun, we can feel good about restoring the tree canopy for the future of the island.

Jekyll Creek dredging is still tentative and subject to change, but the schedule is anticipated for March 4th through April 13th. This timeframe includes preparation of the thin layer placement site and the placement of the dredge material on the site.

Georgia Power has completed a new design and routing for the causeway, which was requested during an earlier Board Meeting. GA Power indicated that due to some personnel changes at the Savannah Corps, they are now being asked to file a reconstruction notification with the Corps. GA Power is also working with the Coastal Resource Division of DNR on their Marsh access permitting. This process is expected to be completed by the end of February. Once all permits are in hand, Georgia Power expects to start clearing April 8th with foundations beginning April 30th and line to arrive May 14th. Depending on those schedules and the weather, they should be completed with the project before the end of this year.

The latest Island Guide and Progress Report have been printed. The Progress Report is submitted each year to all members of the State Legislature as well as to the Governor's office. These items are also available online for anyone to view.

Chairman Hodges asked if there were any comments – There were none.

Chairman Comments:

Chairman Hodges congratulated Joseph Colbert for his designation into the Wildlife Society. Welcomed Dave Legasse's new business 'The Salt Table' to Jekyll Island and thanked Alex Myers for helping out.

Chairman Hodges asked if there were any comments – Vance Hughes, island resident recognized Executive Director Jones Hooks and team, calling for a round of applause for getting the solar project done, stating it took some years and a lot of effort, but it is an excellent thing for Jekyll Island and for Southeast Georgia.

Chairman Hodges commented that the solar farm being the largest on state-owned land in the state of Georgia is symbolic of JIA's commitment to sustainable energy which is supported by our mission.

Jekyll Island Resident Al Tate, asked what was planned for the other side of the solar farm? Director of Conservation, Ben Carswell stated the area will be used for vegetation/debris when we have hurricanes; the past two hurricanes took up the other side of the road completely with debris.

Public comments: None.

Jekyll Island Authority Board Meeting

Minutes: Chairman Hodges called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15th, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting. Mr. Jones moved to approve; seconded by Mr. Gross. Unanimously approved by the board.

Minutes: Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve the minutes of the January 25th, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting. Mr. Krueger moved to approve; seconded by Mr. Gross. Unanimously approved by the board.

Historic Preservation/Conservation Committee: Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve the RFQ 355 regarding Historic District Projects. Unanimously approved by the board.

Finance Committee: Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve the 3rd amendment to the revised and restated lease agreement, Villas by the Sea Condominium Association, Inc. Unanimously approved by the board.

Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve ‘The Salt Table,’ lease proposed Beach Village Lease Agreement. Unanimously approved by the board.

Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve Capital Request: Wave Pool Blowers. Unanimously approved by the board.

Committee of the Whole: Chairman Hodges called for motion to approve Marina condo concept name – “The Moorings at Jekyll Island.” Unanimously approved by the board.

There being no additional items to bring before the Board, Chairman Hodges adjourned the meeting.