

The Jekyll Island State Park Authority (JIA) and Committees met in Public Session on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at the Jekyll Island Club Resort Ballroom and via teleconference.

Members Present: Mr. Joseph B. Wilkinson Jr., Chairman via Teleconference
Mr. Bob Krueger, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bill Gross, Secretary/Treasurer
Commissioner Mark Williams
Dr. Buster Evans
Mr. Glen Willard
Ms. Joy Burch-Meeks
Mr. Trip Tollison via Teleconference
Mr. Dale Atkins

Key Staff Present: Jones Hooks, Executive Director
Noel Jensen, Executive Deputy Director
Marjorie Johnson, Chief Accounting Officer
Melissa Cruthirds, General Counsel
Jenna Johnson, Director of Human Resources
Ben Carswell, Director of Conservation
Michele Kaylor, Director of Georgia Sea Turtle Center
Kevin Udell, Sales Manager
Andrea Marroquin, Museum Curator
Anna Trapp, Executive Assistant

Various members of the public, JIA staff, and press were also present.

Vice Chairman Krueger called the committee session to order at 9:33 a.m., and the roll was called for members attending in person and those attending via teleconference.

Commissioner Mark Williams arrived in person at 9:34 a.m.; Mr. Trip Tollison joined the meeting via teleconference at 9:36 a.m.; and Ms. Joy Burch-Meeks arrived in person at 9:46 a.m.

There were two public comments received online for this meeting. The names of the commenters and the subjects of the public comments were read into the record as shown below. A copy of the full comment was given to each Board member and becomes part of the permanent record.

- Edward Weintraut - Crossover Maintenance
- James Reed, President of the Jekyll Island Men's Golf Association - Golf Master Plan

I. Historic Preservation/Conservation Committee

A. Ben Carswell, Director of Conservation and Michelle Kaylor, Director of Georgia Sea Turtle Center provided an update on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Proposed Seasonal Dredging at Brunswick Harbor. Carswell began the discussion by explaining that the U.S. Army Corps is advancing a plan to allow dredging outside of the historic three-month winter period, when loggerhead turtles are less abundant. This policy shift comes in response to a formal biological opinion issued last year that was led by a federal scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In May of 2021, a Federal Court issued an injunction which halted hopper dredging, which is the more problematic

dredging equipment for loggerhead sea turtles, at the Brunswick Harbor. The Corps acknowledged the error in their public input process that led to the court injection. As required by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), they have issued updated environmental assessment documents and opened an extended public comment period through July 21, 2021. The draft retains the finding of no significant impact to protected resources, but it does not substantially modify plans for hopper dredging outside of the winter window or limits on potential lethal take of loggerhead sea turtles under the Endangered Species Act. After review of the draft federal documents and the record of communication between the federal and state agencies on this matter, Carswell believes there is no scientific consensus between the federal and state scientific experts in regard to the loggerhead sea turtle population in our area of the Northern Recovery Unit and how the proposed policy changes could impact that population. Through consultation with JIA staff including Terry Norton, Michelle Kaylor, and Jones Hooks a comment letter has been prepared that focuses on the scientific aspect and aims to encourage the Corps to create a space for a science focused discussion. Carswell acknowledged that there are big issues at play such as economic commerce, legality, and consistency across regional and federal policy. There are expertise on both sides of the state and federal agencies, but in JIA's view, without more robust scientific vetting, the risks or potential benefits to endangered species of any proposed change are not as calculated as they should be. In hopes of contributing to society solutions, JIA proposes a workshop or series of workshops potentially to be held on Jekyll Island to fully tap the breadth and depth of academic, state, and federal scientific expertise. While policy decisions in the science that should inform them can be by nature dispassionate and personal topics, this issue inescapably affects individuals, both individual sea turtles and the familiarity we have with them as individual people. Carswell invited Kaylor to discuss that side of the issue.

Kaylor discussed the most common sea turtle species found in Georgia's coastal region, the loggerhead sea turtle. One of the Georgia Sea Turtle Center's flagship projects is the sea turtle monitoring program, which has gained vital information about the importance of loggerhead sea turtles in the Northern Recovery Unit, which makes up Georgia and the two states of Carolina. She discussed Big Bertha, a loggerhead sea turtle who has the longest nesting history in the world, producing over three thousand sea turtle hatchlings. Big Bertha was first tagged in 1988 on Cumberland Island. She's since then has nested on Cumberland, Little Cumberland, and Jekyll Island. With collaborators from the University of Georgia, the GSTC can look at the genetics of our Northern Recovery Unit. That project showed that that Big Bertha has sisters and daughters that also live in the recovery unit just off Jekyll's coast. With all the threats that these animals face from predation on land and sea, human impact, threats such as commercial fisheries, loss of habitat, boat strikes, and plastic pollution, these important mothers' lives are at stake with the decisions to dredge during nesting season.

Commissioner Williams brought up that sea turtles need thirty years to reach sexual maturity. Carswell confirmed that with any species that mature as late as sea turtles, the significance of removing a single individual, particularly a nesting female, from the population is far greater.

Jones Hooks, Executive Director further explained that the letter Carswell referenced would be sent to the Chief of the Planning Branch of the Corps of Engineers. This letter would also become a public record for the Army Corps' Public Comment Period.

There was no opposition from the Board Members, and there were no public comments.

II. Finance Committee

A. Mr. Bill Gross, Finance Committee Chair summarized the June Financials. He stated that since year-end closing takes more time to complete than the typical monthly financial close-out, June financials will be presented at the August Board Meeting. However, the June traffic statistics and hotel reports were available to present.

The total traffic count for June was 163,037 vehicles, which was 43,848 more vehicles than June 2020. Traffic for last year was impacted by the pandemic, which is part of the reason this variance is so large. As a comparison to a more normal year, June 2021 traffic counts are 22,453 more vehicles than June 2019. The year-to-date traffic count is 740,264 vehicles, which is 247,141 vehicles more than the calendar year-to-date 2020 traffic and 80,572 vehicles more than calendar year-to-date 2019.

Revenues reported by the hotels were \$8.4 million, which was \$3.3 million more than June 2020. The Occupancy Rate was 87.2%, which was up from 72.6%. The Revenue per Available Room was \$213.34, which was up from \$145.70 in June 2020. The Average Daily rate was \$244.58, which was up from \$200.62. Eight of the twelve properties listed on the hotel report had their highest revenue months ever. Year-to-date revenues reported by the hotels were \$28.3 million, which was \$11.9 million more than year-to-date 2020 revenues. The Occupancy Rate was 67.6%, which was up from 54.5%. The Revenue per Available Room was \$136.48, which was up from \$87.11 for year-to-date 2020. The Average Daily rate was \$201.89, which was up from \$159.86.

B. Marjorie Johnson, Chief Accounting Officer presented a request for acceptance of the AmeriCorps Grant for the Upcoming Grant Year. She explained that the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has awarded the JIA the 2021-2022 AmeriCorps grant for the Georgia Sea Turtle Center (GSTC) for the thirteenth year. The Grant Year is September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022, and the total amount of the award is \$358,433 with a fifty percent required match. This match is distributed in the form of staff salaries, benefits, and program supplies for the GSTC program, and it is covered by normal GSTC operating expenses, which were approved in the Fiscal Year 2022 GSTC budget.

The motion to recommend approval of the Request for Acceptance of the AmeriCorps Grant for the Upcoming Grant Year was made by Mr. Willard and seconded by Dr. Evans. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

Hooks reiterated the significance of the Hotel Report numbers which showed that eight of the twelve hotels on Jekyll Island had their highest revenue months ever, not just during the past year. This is a strong indicator of the increased leisure travel that is being seen along the coast.

There were no public comments.

III. Human Resources Committee

A. Jenna Johnson, Director of Human Resources discussed the request for approval of the Parental Leave Policy. This policy provides full-time employees who have been employed for at least six months with three weeks of paid parental leave that can only be used for the birth of child, adoption, or foster care placement. This leave time is in addition to the sick and annual leave employees accrue. However, this leave does not accrue. It is a

set amount that is only triggered by one of those three events. The policy is in accordance with the new parental leave law that went into effect on July 1, 2021.

The motion to recommend approval of the Request for Approval of the Parental Leave Policy was made by Mr. Krueger and seconded by Mr. Atkins. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

B. J. Johnson discussed the request for approval of the Personal Leave of Absence Policy. This update will provide guidance and clarification for the types of leave of absence that are available, eligibility, and how to request that leave. Our requirements to make arrangements to pay for benefits will remain the same. The expectation of notifying the JIA on the intent to return in the event of a leave of absence remains the same. Also, how a leave of absence interacts with other policies or regulations such as FMLA will remain the same. This update to the policy provides much needed guidance both for supervisors and employees.

The motion to recommend approval of the Request for Approval of the Personal Leave of Absence Policy was made by Dr. Evans and seconded by Ms. Burch-Meeks. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

C. Before J. Johnson discussed the Request for Approval of the Education Incentive Program, Dr. Evans expressed his delight that the JIA has this policy as an investment in personnel by giving them the opportunity to fund a portion of their education. J. Johnson explained that the education reimbursement policy update changes the reimbursement from 100% of all expenses up to a set amount of \$3,000 per fiscal year to tuition and books for up to six credit hours per semester or the equivalent at a rate not to exceed in-state tuition set by the University System of Georgia, since that rate can fluctuate along with the cost of education. JIA's limitations will remain the same. If the JIA does not have the funding, they cannot fund the reimbursement program, and the repayment terms for employees who leave within twelve months of reimbursement remains the same. The updates made to this program increases the competitiveness of this benefit as the JIA searches for new employees and retains current employees.

The motion to recommend approval of the Request for Approval of the Education Incentive Program was made by Dr. Evans and seconded by Mr. Atkins. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

There were no public comments.

IV. Marketing Committee

A. Kevin Udell, Senior Sales Manager gave the report from the Marketing Department, which included a group business recap and forecast. Although the challenges of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 resulted in the Convention Center having a difficult year, everyone tried to stay positive, knowing past groups would eventually return. Udell provided a comparison of FY 21 Leads vs FY 19 Leads. There were 169 leads for FY 21, which resulted in 113,000 hotel rooms. In FY 19, there were 158 leads that resulted in 100,000 hotel rooms, which was the best year on record. This comparison illustrates the robust recovery, showing a 30% increase in converting leads to definite bookings. Udell then discussed the Definite Conversions for FY 21 and FY 19. For FY 21 there were 123 groups, 85,000 requested Jekyll Island hotel rooms for partners, and \$17 million in Jekyll Island hotel revenue. For FY 19

there were 149 groups for 96,000 hotel rooms. Udell then discussed the outlook for FY 22. There were already twenty-six leads in the system, seventy-three definite bookings, which equals 55,000 hotel rooms, and \$11 million in hotel revenue for the Island. Sales and the Convention Center is anticipating a revenue record for FY 22. He then provided a breakdown of the markets. Associations continue to be the highest at 44%, with Georgia Associations making up much of that percentage. Corporate group reservations increased from 10% to 17%. Government groups also increased at 17%. Sport groups make up 13%, weddings 6%, and remaining groups 3%.

Hooks highlighted the importance of the percentage of corporate groups, which has increased significantly over the past fifteen years. In the past, Jekyll Island mostly hosted Government and Association groups with very few private sector groups. The strategy that Kevin and the sales teams has implemented in recent years, since the establishment of the new Convention Center, has pushed to improve the variety of groups that utilize Jekyll.

Udell closed the presentation with the future year forecast which includes 145 definite groups, equaling 124,000 room nights and \$25 million in hotel revenue. He also noted that 30% of the groups for FY 22 are new to Jekyll.

There were no public comments.

VI. Committee of the Whole

A. Melissa Cruthirds, General Counsel discussed the Board Request for the Executive Director to serve on certain committees pursuant to Governor's Ethics Order. On April 1, 2021, Governor Brian Kemp issued a new Ethics Order which requires all employees to submit an attestation that the employee has read and understands the Ethics Order. Submission of this attestation is mandatory and a condition of employment. The Ethics Order also prohibits an employee from serving as an officer or director of any non-profit corporation unless:

- a. the non-profit does not seek funding from the state and the employer approves the employee's service or
- b. subject to approval from the Governor's Executive Counsel, if the non-profit does seek funding from the State,
 - i. the employee's service is directly related to the employee's employment, and
 - ii. the employee has been requested to serve by the Office of the Governor, the employer, or is required to serve in that capacity

Cruthirds explained that several employees serve on the boards of various non-profit corporations, and Jones Hooks, as Executive Director of the Authority, has requested these employees to continue to serve on these Boards. Mr. Hooks, in his position as Executive Director of the Authority, serves on the Board of Directors of the following: Golden Isles Development Authority, Jekyll Island Foundation, and Golden Isles Convention & Visitors Bureau. His service is directly related to his employment as Executive Director. Thus, this request is for the Authority to formally request his service on these various entities. This request, along with the other employee requests referenced will be submitted to the Governor's Executive Counsel for approval via the provided drafted letter.

The motion to request that Mr. Hooks serve on the referenced entities and approve sending the attached letter to the Governor's Executive Counsel as recommended by staff

was made by Mr. Gross and Seconded by Mr. Willard. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

B. Jones Hooks, Executive Director opened the discussion of the Request for Approval of the Jekyll Island Club Resort (JICR) Ownership Transfer and Amendments to The Wharf Lease. He recognized the Northview Group and Matt Trevenen for their contributions to Jekyll over the past five years, including over \$30 million worth of investments. After learning that an opportunity was presented to the Northview Group for a new ownership group to take over the JICR lease, Hooks met with representatives from the proposed ownership and management group to discuss and address items that are important to the JIA such as history and conservation and ensuring the Grand Dining Room and hotel restaurants are open to the public, not just property guests. Additionally, the agreement that no parking fees would be issued from the hotel group was discussed along with the restatement of the lease. The proposed ownership and management group have experience with leasehold agreements, as they have arrangements with federal, state, and local entities within other properties they operate. Hooks noted that the JIA believes that these groups understand the unique characteristics of Jekyll Island and feels comfortable partnering with the two groups. He then introduced Steve Coe, the Senior Vice President of Asset Management of Pebblebrook Hotel Trust and Sean Mullen, the President of Sales Revenue Management and Acquisitions with Noble House Hotels and Resorts.

Mr. Coe introduced Pebblebrook at the largest independent operator of urban and independent hotels in the country including fifty-one hotels with a little over twelve thousand guest rooms across the country. He explained that their vision for the JICR is to fine-tune the great investments made the Northview Group and bring the resort back post pandemic which includes finding and training great people to work there everyday. He noted that this is the immediate challenge of any hospitality owner today, which is why Pebblebrook partners with Noble House. Since Pebblebrook is a real estate investment trust, they are not allowed to manage what they own. Every property they own is third-party managed.

Mr. Mullen explained that Noble House is a private, family owned company that operates twenty-one different properties throughout the United States. Five of those properties are located in Florida, and they are looking to expand in the Southeast. They feature themselves as being all about the local hotel and want to promote Jekyll Island as well as the Jekyll Island Ocean Club and the resort. Noble House wants to be a good steward of Jekyll as well a good steward and protector of the legacy and history of the island and the resort. Mullen noted that Noble House currently operate seven assets that are on a lease and they also have experience operating historic hotels. They embrace the history that they think today's guests want to visit and associates want to work at. He reiterated that Noble House us excited to be part of the Jekyll team and they want to work with the JIA to preserve and promote the history and the integrity and the beauty of Jekyll Island.

Hooks added that Pebblebrook has indicated their interest in continuing committing to the Jekyll Island Foundation through offering guests the opportunity to contribute to the foundation. They have also discussed the importance of resident engagement with the property.

Mr. Krueger then turned the discussion over to Melissa Cruthirds, General Counsel. She mentioned that Pebblebrook has committed to continuing the sponsorship of the Shrimp

and Grits Festival. She then explained that the lease will be in the name of Golden Isles Owners LLC, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pebblebrook Hotel Trust. It will then be subleased to Golden Isles Lessee LLC, which is a wholly owned taxable subsidiary also of Pebblebrook Hotel Trust and Noble House Hotels and Resorts will be the operator of the properties. The Club Resort and the Wharf Restaurant will both be owned by the Golden Isles Owner LLC, but they are actually two separate leases. As part of this transfer, the parties have reviewed the Wharf Restaurant lease and determined there were discrepancies with how the property is currently being used. As a result, the parties have drafted a First Amendment to the Wharf Restaurant lease which amends the lease. Some of these amendments include: corrected referenced deed book page number, corrected premises description in the restaurant ground lease, and inclusion of square footage rental. The base monthly rent is increased to account for these amended premises. The utilities provision is amended to account for this, as is the taxes provision, the repair maintenance, damages and destruction, and insurance provision. All that was adjusted to account for the amended premises. The legal descriptions for both the Wharf and Hotel leases were revised to reflect the amended premises and ensure compliance with technical standards for property surveys. There are no changes to the Club Resort Hotel lease. The only changes are to the Wharf lease. Cruthirds then presented the three items to be considered to effectuate this transfer:

- First Amendment to the restaurant ground lease
- The assignment and assumption from NV LNWA JIC HOTEL, LLC, otherwise known as Northview, to Golden Isles Owner, LLC of the Restaurant Ground Lease, as amended, and approval of sublease from Golden Isles Owner, LLC to Golden Isles Lessee, LLC
- The Assignment and Assumption from NV LNWA JIC HOTEL, LLC to Golden Isles Owner, LLC of the Hotel Ground Lease and approval of sublease from Golden Isles Owner, LLC to Golden Isles Lessee, LLC.

The motion to recommend approval of First Amendment to the restaurant ground lease as recommended by staff was made by Dr. Evans and Seconded by Mr. Gross. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

The motion consenting to the Assignment and Assumption of the Ground Lease with Amendments for The Wharf Restaurant as recommended by staff was made by Mr. Gross and Seconded by Mr. Atkins. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

The motion consenting to the Assignment and Assumption of the Lease Agreement for Jekyll Island Club Resort as recommended by staff was made by Mr. Willard and Seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

C. Andrea Marroquin, Museum Curator requested board approval to Award RFP 366, Phase I & II Archaeological Investigations of the Jekyll Island Golf Courses to Terracon. She noted that eight bids were received the month prior. A selection committee was formed to review and rank each proposal. Three candidates were invited to present before the selection committee, and through the proposal, presentation, and interview process, Terracon emerged as the apparent finalist. According to Terracon's proposal, the field work would be completed within 30 days of notice to proceed, followed by a first draft of the archeological report within the first two months. This would be followed by a period of JIA review and consultation with the state historic preservation office, and after an appropriate period of review, would culminate in a final report. The estimated cost of the project is \$17,5000 for Phase I testing. There would be an additional \$10,000 per

archeological site requiring Phase II evaluations and \$9,000 for completion of the final report.

Hooks prefaced Marroquin's presentation by supporting the recommendation from the selection team especially considering the time frame. He also reiterated that this archeological study of the golf courses is essential before the Board can consider adoption of the Golf Master Plan.

The motion to recommend approval to Award RFP 366, Phase I & II Archaeological Investigations of the Jekyll Island Golf Courses to Terracon as recommended by staff was made by Mr. Atkins and Seconded by Mr. Willard. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

D. Noel Jensen, Chief Operations Officer gave an update on the Jekyll Island's Beach Crossovers. This update was specific to the "T Streets", which are the beach facing residential streets north of the Holiday Inn. This construction also involved the last segment of the beach revetment built several years ago. The funds used for this project were provided through a state grant to allow JIA to construct beach crossovers at all the T Streets in conjunction with the revetment. He announced that the project will be completed after they receive the last shipment of lumber later in the week. The project consists of ten new beach crossovers which were built along north end of Beachview Drive. Previously, these were sporadic and not built on every street, as they are now. Three of the new crossovers are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These crossovers have a ramp that goes to an outlook which will allow individuals who are in a wheelchair or motorized scooter the opportunity to pull off to the side and enjoy the view.

The total amount of liner feet (LF) for all new crossovers combined is 1,223 LF. The first set of drawings for these crossovers was received in February 2020, and the last set of drawings were received in August of 2020. Jensen then shared photos of a few of the new crossovers including Bliss Lane, Austin Lane, and Ellis Lane. Bliss Lane was designed to keep the tree structure in place and disturb as little vegetation as possible. Austin Lane is an ADA accessible cross over which includes an outlook area. Ellis Lane's design shows increased elevation in order to make the stair length as short as possible and prevent it from being extremely dangerous. A few other significant design elements include drilling into the revetment rock which assists with stabilizing the structure. Previous designs did not hold up well during hurricanes and other storms, creating debris. After enduring Tropical Storm Elsa, this new design showed little to no damage.

Jensen then discussed dune crossover maintenance at Corsair Beach Park. This crossover was ADA accessible, but mother nature took over the dune and covered it with sand within fourteen months even with consistent upkeep and cleaning. With the assistance of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), JIA received a permit to rebuild the crossover over the dune which will leave thirty-six inches between the dune and bottom of the crossover. Stairs will also be added to make a landing. This will once again allow access to Corsair Beach, but it unfortunately will not be ADA accessible. However, there is a handicap access approximately four hundred feet to the north at the Beach Village crossover.

Hooks mentioned that this project to have a crossover at each of the T Streets has been a priority since the late 1990's, but the funds were not available. The construction of these

crossovers promotes the safety of residents and guests, as crossing the rock revetment as it is, is very dangerous and has resulted in injuries such as broken limbs.

Jensen closed with a note that any funds left over from the State Grant are intended to be use to bringing sidewalks from the street to the edge of the crossing, so pedestrians will have complete access from the asphalt road to the crossover, prioritizing the ADA compliant crossovers.

E. Jones Hooks, Executive Director presented the Executive Director's Report. He began his report by acknowledging the Mayor of Brunswick's attendance and commenting that the City of Brunswick's status as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) will stay intact. The Board approved a letter sent to the Federal Agency in charge of this decision as well as the Congressman explaining how important it is for Brunswick to retain its MSA status.

Hooks provided a brief update on several studies and projects approved by the Board.

- JIA has been working with the Jerrico Design Group on the conceptual Public Safety Complex plans including the site plans as well as the square footage arrangements. The Georgia State Patrol has also participated in this process.
- The Archeological Study will be moving forward, as discussed by Andrea Marroquin.
- JIA is working with Goodwin Mills and Caywood Inc. (GMC) on the Code Revision Project to update JIA Ordinances. A public input session that included a review of the project scope was held on July 15, 2021, and another public input session will be scheduled toward the end of August. Melissa Cruthirds meets virtually with this group weekly to review progress.
- The University of Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute continues to work on the Master Plan Update. Stakeholder input sessions have been held and the survey is complete. Additional stakeholder meetings will take place as well as a meeting with the review committee before a public presentation at an upcoming Board Meeting.

Hooks then referenced an email that he wrote to Bert Brantley, Deputy Chief of Staff at the Office of the Governor regarding the possibility of COVID-19 relief. JIA was not eligible to receive relief funds directly from the Federal Government, since it is not a local or state government. However, Governor Kemp appointed several committees to review the needs of state of Georgia with \$4.8 billion in COVID-19 relief funds. JIA should be eligible to participate in this program. The amount of funds that JIA would apply for would be tied to losses that occurred at the Convention Center. The Convention Center staff remained furloughed, and the Convention Center remained dark for about eight months. The total net operating loss between March 2020 and March 2021 for the Convention Center was \$934,846.71. The Accounting Department, Sales, and the Convention Center will work together to gather the documentation needed to apply for the relief and recoup some the actual losses incurred during the pandemic. Commissioner Williams advised that the OPB process opens August 1st and the first round of funding is \$2.4 billion.

F. Acting Chairman Krueger gave the Chairman's Comments. Mr. Krueger commented how glad he is to see JIA picking up the pace post the pandemic and hopes the Convention Center continues to recover and grow. He appreciates the efforts put forth by JIA staff and Board Members. He also made a comment on behalf of the Board extending their condolences to Chairman Wilkinson on the recent loss of his wife, stating he is in their thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Krueger then opened the floor to public comments. There were four public comments received during the meeting:

- Gloria Zocchi commented that she is delighted to know residents and the public will be able to use the historic hotel dining room again. She also hopes they are able to use Crane Cottage again.
- Mayor Cornell Harvey commented that he is honored to be a former JIA employee and is happy to see how the growth has blossomed even during COVID. He also gave kudos to the Convention Center which hosted his daughter's wedding. He voiced his appreciation of the leadership and the togetherness in the community.
- Vance Hughes reported that the architect who worked on the restoration of the Jekyll Island Club, Franklin Larry Evans had passed away recently. He hopes that everyone will remember Larry as changes are made.
- Matt Trevenen with Northview Hotel Group commented on his five years with the Jekyll Island Club Resort. He thanked the JIA for their support, specifically Melissa Cruthirds and Jones Hooks. He hopes that Northview has been a good steward to the property and Jekyll Island.

The Board took an 8-minute break before continuing to the JIA Board Meeting.

The Jekyll Island State Park Authority (JIA) Board Meeting
July 20, 2021

The roll was called at 11:05 a.m, and all members were present.

* Mr. Tollison was muted during the rollcall, but he participated for each vote.

1. Mr. Gross moved to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2021 board meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. There was no discussion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
2. Acceptance of the AmeriCorps Grant for the Upcoming Grant Year, a recommendation of the Finance Committee, was carried by unanimous consent.
3. Approval of the Parental Leave Policy, a recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, was carried by unanimous consent.
4. Approval of the Personal Leave of Absence Policy, a recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, was carried by unanimous consent.
5. Approval of the Education Incentive Program, a recommendation of the Human Resources Committee, was carried by unanimous consent.
6. Request for Mr. Hooks to serve on the discussed entities and to approve sending the attached letter to the Governor's Executive Counsel, a recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, carried by unanimous consent.
7. Approval of the First Amendment to the Restaurant Ground Lease; Consent to the Assignment and Assumption of the Ground Lease with Amendments; AND Consent to the Assignment and Assumption of the Lease Agreement for Jekyll Island Club Resort, a recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, carried by unanimous consent.

8. Awarding RFP 366, Phase I & II Archaeological Investigations of the Jekyll Island Golf Courses to Terracon, a recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, carried by unanimous consent.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Willard and was seconded by Dr. Evans. There was no objection to the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.