

## JICANet Update

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*Prior Updates can be found on our website at [www.jekyllcitizens.org](http://www.jekyllcitizens.org)*

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### Record of the Jekyll Island State Park Authority (JISPA) Board Meeting of 17 January 2012, in Chalet 7, as recorded for JICA

Chairman Bob Krueger brought the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. The Board member present was Mike Hodges. Buddy DeLoach, Al Ike, Sybil Lynn, and Mark Williams were on conference telephone, as was Nancy Gallagher of the Attorney General's Office. Also present was Park Authority Executive Director Jones Hooks. The audience numbered about 18 persons.

#### COMMITTEE SESSIONS; FINANCE

Chairman Hodges reported that for the month of December, 2011, net operating cash income was \$52,953, 16% under budget. For the fiscal year to date, net income was \$896,740; compare \$1.023 million for the previous fiscal year through December. The income figures were affected by new, increased, State employee benefits charges. Director Hooks noted that December revenues were surprisingly good relative to usual December figures; the good weather was cited as a probable factor behind the good revenue values.

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Legal Associate Chris O'Donnell presented an update on the negotiations with SMG for the contract to operate the new Convention Center. Business terms have been agreed upon, but parts of the insurance and indemnity terms are still being negotiated. Nancy Gallagher stated that she and Adam Kirk have the problem areas whittled down to about two sentences. The Board approved the contract, subject to agreement on the problem sentences.

Chairman Krueger announced that it was proposed that the name of the street that will run in front of the Westin Hotel in the Beach Village be changed from Convention Way to Ocean Way. This change was approved by the Board.

Chairman Krueger introduced a proposal to renew the contract of Executive Director Hooks for two years, and this was approved.

Director Hooks announced that the Convention Center construction is now 89% complete.

Hooks observed that the selective vista-clearing project on the Jekyll Causeway is underway. This will be a five-year, rotating-vista program, resulting in limited clearing of shrubs and trees (e.g. this year only 2.5 miles of vistas will be cleared). Permits from DNR and DOT are in hand.

The Georgia Center for Non-Profits Momentum Core Group has chosen the Jekyll Island Foundation as one of its 25 target organizations. Performance-management review, leadership review, and consulting-services review will be provided over the next two years to the 25 target non-profits.

Interviews for the Park's open position of Conservation Director are complete, and references of candidates are currently being checked. The successful candidate may be announced at the February Board meeting.

#### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Krueger expressed pleasure at seeing the progress of the Park's rejuvenation.

Mindy Egan inquired about the schedule for the forthcoming review of the Park's Master Plan? Answer: the Fanning Institute (which is in charge of managing the updating of the Park's Master Plan) had intended to present an update at the current Board meeting, but since this was a teleconference meeting, the Fanning presentation will take place at the February Board meeting, and will include schedules for task-force and committee formation, and public hearings. It is now anticipated that the revised Master Plan will not be complete until the end of the first quarter of 2013. Egan asked whether any preliminary work is being done by Fanning prior to the February report? Answer: yes, some preliminary work is underway now.

Richard Van Iderstyne expressed concern at the cutting of the trees and shrubs along the edges of the marsh at the sides of the Jekyll Causeway. He urged caution with this project, and compared the destruction of the Causeway foliage to the changes in the landscape caused many years ago by the Park Authority, when they bulldozed the dunes in the Park in order to provide more ocean vistas – now we wish that the bulldozing had not taken place. Van Iderstyne stated his opinion that possession of permits does not necessarily mean that the project is justified. Director Hooks reminded the group that this is the second year of the vista-clearing project, so it can be seen that the clearing is by no means a total devastation of the causeway foliage. The clearing is selective, and it is under Landscape Director Cliff Gawron's and Turtle Center Director Terry Norton's guidance.

Chairman Krueger adjourned the Committee Meeting at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Steven Y. Newell, Jekyll Island Citizens Association; produced after transcribing from a digital voice recorder.

#### **GSP Residential Security Checks -**

The Georgia State Patrol would like to remind residents that they still do security house checks while absent from your residence. A simple form is available at the post at the Welcome Center Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM giving us the necessary information. If we can help, please let us know at 635-2303 - SFC Riky Davis #503 Post 35 Commander.

Editor Note: Remember to immediately identify yourself as calling from Jekyll Island when calling 911 from a Cell phone.

#### **JIAA February Exhibit -**

The Jekyll Island Arts Association will host local artists Ben Foster, painter and Sealy Booth, sculptor for the month of February. Come see the works of these very talented artists. An artist's reception will be held Sunday, February 5 1p - 3p at Goodyear Cottage. As usual, admission is free.

### **JIAA Presents an Evening of Entertainment - Tuesday, February 7**

Come and enjoy the soulful vocals and smooth sax of Michael Hulett. The concert will be held in the Historic District Convention Campus starting at 7p. A cash bar opens at 6:30p. Donations will be accepted.

### **Jl Lions Telephone Books Available -**

The updated Jekyll Island Telephone Directory is now available from Lions Club members and various businesses on Jekyll. The cost is \$5.00 with all proceeds going to the numerous Lions Club supported charities.

### **Previously Announced Event**

#### **Black History Month Activities - Feb 2012**

Jekyll Island will celebrate Black History Month with a variety of programs highlighting the experiences of African Americans on the Georgia coast. Special events offered throughout the month of February include living history performances, musical traditions, arts and crafts, and newfound discoveries.

On Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 7:00pm in the History Center Theater a Civil War Living History event will feature the story of Susie King Taylor as portrayed by Sherrie Tolliver. Susie King Taylor served as the first African American Army nurse during the Civil War. She worked with the first black Union Army Regiment throughout the South. Join her as she looks back on her life in camp with the black troops. Admission is free.

The Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters present a tribute to Willis Proctor on Thursday, February 9, 2012, at 7:00 pm at Historic Faith Chapel. Proctor, a valet for Jekyll Island Club member William Rockefeller, later owned a "jumping" nightspot on nearby St. Simons Island. He is remembered for his contributions to folk music as a Georgia Sea Island Singer. Admission is \$15.00.

Master Basket Weaver Yvonne Grovner will teach one of the oldest art forms of African origin in America - Sweetgrass Basketmaking. Enjoy this 200-year-old tradition by making your own masterpiece from locally found sweet cord grass. The workshop takes place at Villa Ospo on Saturday, February 11, 2012, 2:30-5:30 pm. Cost of this program is \$40.00 and includes materials. Places are limited. please call 635-4036 for reservations.

Researcher April Hynes explores what happened to the survivors of the slave ship Wanderer, which arrived on Jekyll Island in 1858. With support from Ancestry.com and the Chipstone Foundation, Hynes shares stories of survivors' experiences and interviews with descendants. "The Search for the Wanderer Survivors" presentation is offered Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 7:00 pm in the History Center Theater. Admission is free.

For admission and reservation details about all Jekyll Island Black History Month events, contact the Jekyll Island Museum at [912-635-4036](tel:912-635-4036) or visit [jekyllisland.com](http://jekyllisland.com) or [facebook.com/jekyllisland](https://www.facebook.com/jekyllisland).

#### **Jekyll Island Town Hall Meeting - Wednesday, Feb 15**

Jl Executive Director will hold the next Town Hall Meeting from 5p-6:30p at McCormick's Grill Upstairs Garden Room. Town Hall meetings are opportunities for informal dialog and there is no specific agenda. Here is an chance to ask questions and get updates on JIA activities

### **Annual Presbyterian Community Church Winter Seminar Series - Wednesdays, Feb 1,8,& 15**

Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church will present their annual winter seminar series on the Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30 in the church mission parlor on Riverview Drive. Each session of this popular series is free and all are welcome to attend. This years schedule is:

On Wed, Feb. 1, Eric Garvey from the Jekyll Island Authority will present a comprehensive revitalization update titled "We're Gettin' There."

On Wed, Feb. 8, "Authors Day" will feature Pam Mueller and Jim Prebble. Pam will describe her new book, "Water to My Soul" which is about Eliza Lucas Pinckney. Jim will discuss his book, "Near As I Can Recall" - reflections on life in a small community, as near as he can recall.

On Wed, Feb. 15, Betty Anne Wylie, "The Best Storyteller in Georgia," will delight and entertain you with her stories.

Light refreshments will follow each presentation. For more information call 635-3008.

--- and that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds and the sun shines brightly!!! --  
Jim Reed, JICANet Editor

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