



HIGHTIDINGS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FOREST BEACH OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

www.forestbeachassociation.com

2016

Annual Meeting

Our next Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 22nd, 2016 from 10am – Noon in the Fellowship Hall located at the Providence Presbyterian Church, 171 Cordillo Parkway. Please plan on attending this very important and informative meeting.

1. Review of Annual Meeting Minutes from October 2015
2. Welcome and Introduction of Board Members
3. Ward & Town Representative Introductions
4. Treasurer's Interim Financial Report and Previous Year End
5. Presentation of 2017 Budget
6. Update on Legal Matters
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Election of 2017 BOD Nominees (1 Position)
10. Closing Remarks

Hard Work is Paying Off for Forest Beach

Many of you will receive this newsletter and ask yourself – what does the Forest Beach Owners' Association actually do for me and why should I support them by paying dues? That is a very fair and valid question. So here are some answers:

The Association does more than simply administer covenants and the Architectural Review Board (ARB). We are the sole advocate for Forest Beach.

Many of the large gated communities on the Island are completely within one single Town Ward being represented by one public official. Unlike Forest Beach, where we are divided among three Wards, each with a different councilperson. This means communities with a single political representative can dominate their Ward having a dedicated Town Councilperson to advocate for them. Unfortunately, Forest Beach is divided among three separate Wards that comprises a very slim minority within each Ward. Yes, this is a clear political disadvantage to our community. Your Association continues to step up and serve as the single, sole advocate and lobbying force for all things Forest Beach.

Our efforts and hard work are clearly beginning to pay off.

The new Coligny Park - The Town is investing over \$21 million dollars in a new park and playground in the heart of our community. The Town initially wanted to take this central parcel along Pope Avenue and develop it into a new branch campus of the USC-Beaufort. Your Association led the charge to make this parcel what will become the largest park on the Island instead. It takes a lot of lobbying and old-fashioned political hustle to turn around a project at Town Hall – especially when you consider Forest Beach doesn't have a designated Town Councilperson representing us.

The new USC-Beaufort campus - The Association was never opposed to a new campus on the Island, we simply believed that in a neighborhood of 3000 condos and 700 houses and myriad commercial projects, that we should have at least one public park. The Association lobbied to have the new USC-Beaufort campus placed further up Pope Avenue at its former location, and the Town saw fit to accept this suggestion. This fall we should see construction begin on a new \$23 million campus along Office Park Road. Hilton Head Island, and Forest Beach have both gained a new park and a college campus, not bad.

The Circle to Circle Committee - When this committee was formed, Town leaders recognized that the Forest Beach community deserved a seat at the table. Your Association president was appointed by the Town to serve on this committee. The near term of this new masterplan should soon see new bike paths, new neighborhood pocket parks (in addition to the Coligny Park), possible land acquisition for greenspace, and new roadways to better connect our community. Depending on the number of new connector roads, this project could total \$10-20 million of additional investment in Forest Beach.

Beach Re-nourishment - This year Hilton Head Island is spending over \$20 million on beach re-nourishment. As a neighborhood, Forest Beach has the longest stretch of beach on Hilton Head Island. We should expect to see just over half of the sand pumped onto the beach during this re-nourishment project to land on beaches within our community.

So let's add up the value of your investment in the Association's advocacy and lobbying efforts on your behalf:

- Four major Town projects underway in the Forest Beach area with a total price tag approaching \$100 million. (Maybe, Forest Beach does not need a dedicated Town Councilperson to advocate for us? It would be nice though!)

We do need your support – both in active participation on the Board and committees along with your generous financial support through dues payments. Your dues and support have a clear and undeniable impact on our community. Please consider contributing again this year when the dues notices are mailed at the end of December so we can keep up our efforts on your behalf.

The Forest At Forest Beach (FAFB) Residents Committee

When the Circle to Circle Committee began work approximately 16 months ago, one of the committee suggestions was a method of attracting beach-goers away from the busy public Coligny Beach access area to lesser used Island beaches. There was a suggestion made to the Committee and its consultants that the private neighborhood accesses along Forest Beach might be opened up with the possibility of using our "Forest at Forest Beach" (the town-owned parcel of undeveloped land bounded by Egret Street on the south, Ibis Street on the north, North Forest Beach on the East and Park Lane on the west) for paved parking. When discussions later turned to treating storm water runoff in the CTC area, the consultants also suggested using this parcel for either a retention pond and/or treatment facility of storm water. Everything seemed to be moving in these directions, and very quickly.

Sixty residents in Forest Beach quickly formed the Forest at Forest Beach (FAFB) Committee, along with a 7-member Planning Committee, and went before the CTC Committee with new ideas. Among those ideas were to leave the property in question as a Forest with few, if any, modifications, and NO paving. The CTC Committee listened to the community's input and moved in the direction of the suggestions of the FAFB Committee, and against attempts to develop this parcel of land. In the CTC's final report to Town Council there was no mention of using our neighborhood "Forest" for any purpose other than the one we have always enjoyed, open space to be enjoyed by all. This illustrates just what interested neighbors in Forest Beach can do—particularly when it comes to determining the needs and uses for Town projects within our community!

Coligny Park Development

On April 2, 2014, the Town Planning Commission, including future Mayor David Bennett and future Town Councilperson Tom Lennox, held a public workshop to chart the course for redevelopment of the Coligny Beach Park area in Central Forest Beach. Town Staff had previously selected this parcel next to the existing beach parking along Pope Avenue as the future home of a branch of USC-Beaufort.

Your Association, based on member feedback, lobbied the Town Council to reconsider this plan. Forest Beach is a neighborhood of over 3000 condos and 500 homes with NO public parks and NO public playgrounds. We believe that a neighborhood of this size should have at least one public park and playground for use by the residents and visitors. The Town Council heard our collective pleas and asked the Planning Commission to host a series of public workshops to garner input directly from the people of Forest Beach and to plot the most beneficial course for redevelopment.

The Association Board and many of you also participated in these public workshops. The results of those workshops were nothing short of staggering. Instead of a branch of USC-Beaufort, the newly redeveloped area would contain:

- A festival-sized park area complete with an amphitheater with room for up to a 5000 person event
- A destination playground, safely fenced, with multiple play areas for multiple age groups to include a water feature, and seating and shade for parents
- Additional surface parking
- A children's museum
- An extension of Lagoon Road across Pope Avenue that would connect with Tanglewood Drive
- Improved pedestrian access to the park through new neighborhood pathways along with safety improvement to the existing pathway system

All told the new Coligny Park will be a \$21 million investment by the Town in the heart of Forest Beach. Construction is scheduled to begin after this Labor Day with anticipated completion in the fall of 2017. We will keep you updated on the park's progress and will certainly make sure you receive notice of the grand opening next year.

Illegal Pool Water Discharges

Did you know that you cannot discharge chlorinated pool water in to a storm sewer or lagoon system on Hilton Head? At one time it was permissible, but not under current State laws, and there is no 'grandfathering' of older systems that were originally connected to a storm sewer. Chlorinated pool water must first be treated to reduce the chlorine levels before it is permissible to discharge it in to the Island storm water/lagoon systems. Under the Town's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which was issued to the Town by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the town is required to give the responsible party 30 days to eliminate the discharge of chlorinated water. If a violator does not comply within the 30 notice they face potential fines of up to \$1,092.50 per day.

For additional information or clarification of this critical environmental issue, please contact:

Bates Rambow
Storm Water Data and Compliance Administrator
Town of Hilton Head Island, One Town Center Court
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
Office: (843) 341-4683 Cell: (843) 384-4188 batesr@hiltonheadislandsc.gov

Turtles on the March

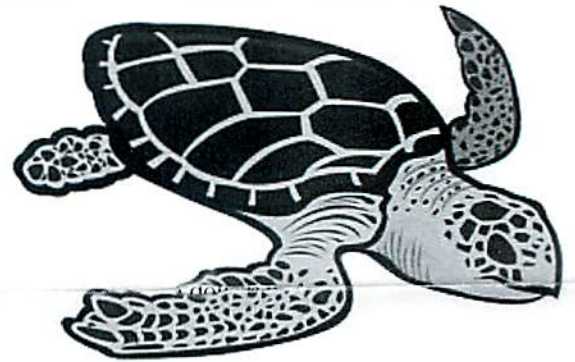
With over 400 identified nests, 2016 was easily the best loggerhead turtle nesting season on Hilton Head Island in recent history. The chart below indicates a clear growth pattern in the total numbers of nests, with 2016 potentially indicating a breakout towards the upside for the vulnerable loggerhead.

Year	Turtle Nests
2009	180
2010	239
2011	324
2012	320
2013	339
2014	131
2015	325
2016	404

How can you help protect our native endangered species? Per the Town website:

“The most important way you can protect Hilton Head Island’s loggerhead sea turtles is to turn the lights out! Sea turtle hatchlings usually emerge from the nest at night. They orient themselves toward the brightest horizon and dash towards the sea. Visible lights from buildings or streets near the beach disorient the hatchlings, and they wander inland where they are almost certain to die. If they don’t make it to the ocean quickly, hatchlings are likely to die of dehydration in the sun or could be caught by predators like birds and crabs. Artificial lights can also disorient females or discourage nesting.”

You can also learn more about our turtles by visiting our friends at www.seaturtle.org. With our long shoreline, wide beaches, and natural dunes system, Forest Beach is privileged to play host to the majority of these endangered sea turtles that visit Hilton Head Island. Please be informed and be involved. Let’s all be good stewards of our precious natural resources.



Small Appliances

Small appliances make our jobs in the kitchen much easier than they were years ago ~ but these same appliances can be a hazard in the kitchen if they aren’t cared for and used properly.

Always read the manufacturer’s directions before using an electrical appliance for the first time.

Always check appliance cords before using. If they are broken, frayed or damaged in any way, do not use them. Damaged cords can cause fires. If the cord can be detached, always unplug the cord from the wall before removing it from the appliance. Cords should have a UL (Underwriters Laboratories) label on them.

Keep small appliances away from water! Do not even try to use an appliance while your hands are wet. Remember that electrical appliances are “live” when plugged in even when the switch is off. If it falls into water, you could be electrocuted if you touch it.

Do not plug an appliance in to the same outlet as several other electrical appliances.

Do not use an appliance if it has food or grease build up.

When finished using an appliance, never wrap the power cord around an appliance too tightly or around a hot appliance.

Toasters: never reach into a toaster with a knife, fork or anything else while it is plugged in. If a bagel or piece of toast gets stuck in a toaster, unplug the toaster first before trying to get the piece out.

Microwaves: when cooking covered foods, make sure a small section is vented or uncovered so steam doesn’t build up and burn you when you take the food out of the microwave. Don’t use metal in a microwave ~ a fire can start!

Clothes dryers: Make sure the lint screen / filter is cleaned each time you use the dryer. Clean behind your dryer where lint can build up. Keep the area around a dryer free of clutter.

FBOA Directors Listing

Jack Daly, President
4 Myrtle LN - '19

Doug Felten, Vice-President
17 Bittern ST - '17

Debbie Urato, Secretary/Treasurer
13 Park RD - '16

Timothy Tanner
51 SFB DR - '19

Tom Weatherhead
34 SFB DR - '18

Open Position - '18

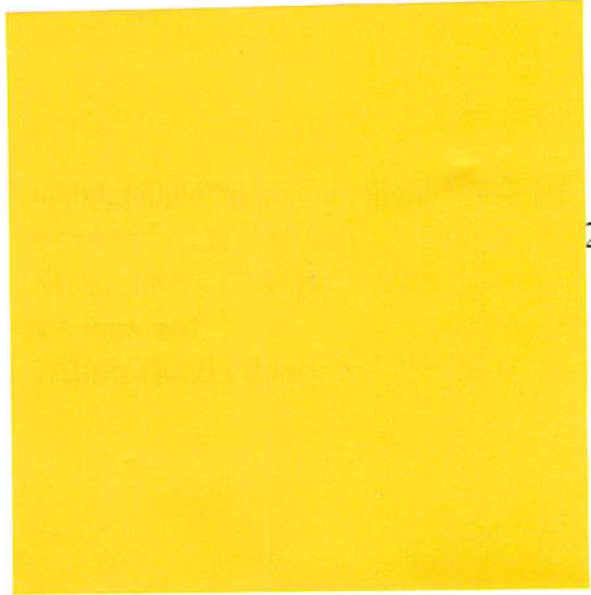
Open Position - '17

De. Gabe Fornari, Past President

John Snodgrass, Executive Director
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Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms are your first warning to get out of your house when there is a fire. Most deaths occur in house fires when people are sleeping. Smoke numbs the senses and causes deeper sleep. Without a smoke alarm, most people never even wake up when smoke fills the home.

There are many different brands of smoke alarms on the market, but they fall under two basic types: ionization and photoelectric.

Ionization alarms sound more quickly when a flaming, fast moving fire occurs. Photoelectric alarms are quicker at sensing smoldering, smoky fires. There are also combination smoke alarms that combine ionization and photoelectric into one unit, called dual sensor smoke alarms or smoke and fire alarms.

In addition to the basic types of alarms, there are alarms made to meet the needs of people with hearing disabilities. These alarms may use strobe lights that flash and/or vibrate.

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home. Inside and outside sleeping areas is ideal. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and installation because there are differences between various brands. Do not install smoke alarms in the kitchen, garage, bathroom or workshop. Cooking

fumes, steam and other air particles can create false alarms and/or damage the alarm's detector. Also check to see when alarms should be replaced - most are ever ~~years~~.

If your smoke alarm activates while you are cooking, then it is doing its job. Wave a towel to clear the air but leave the batteries in place.

A house fire moves with deadly speed, but the real killer is smoke. A person can die of smoke inhalation in less than a minute. A smoke alarm is the single most important means of preventing house and apartment fire fatalities by providing an early warning signal for early escape. It is one of the best safety devices you can invest in.

Test your alarms monthly by pushing the test button (use a broom handle if you cannot reach) and replace batteries twice a year or when you hear the battery "chirp".

Practice your escape plan at least twice a year - and remember, once you're out - stay out!