



Waterfront Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room, 1st Floor

October 21, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

5:01 PM

Mr. Oliver, Chair.

Members in attendance - David Bartholomew, Ben Coppage, Scott Marshall, Joseph Oliver, David Russell, Josh Scallate, Josh Schott, Bill Suter, Mike Sutton.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Oliver, Chair.

III. DISCUSSION ON THE PUBLIC SURVEY PROCESS

Councilman Scallate went over the proposed survey questions and the reasoning behind them. There were 14 in all, with number 15 asking for any additional feedback.

Members of the Committee provided their feedback on the questions and what they believe should be changed or added.

One discussion was whether there should be a separate section in the survey that speaks to the Marina side of the Waterfront Park. Should the litigation aspect be completed first. The survey should not be too long, where people will become fatigued.

Ashley Brandon, Public Information Officer, will coordinate the efforts to help spread the word about the survey in our Beacon Newsletter and posting links on our social media pages and website. There was a discussion to see if a Kiosk could possibly be placed at City Hall for those unable to do the survey online.

Councilman Scallate will make the recommended changes, and it will be brought back in front of the Committee for further discussion and approval at the next meeting, November 3, 2025.

A copy of the survey with recommended changes made by Councilman Scallate is attached.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Howell Beach, Alternate Member of the Committee.

V. ADJOURN

6:19 PM

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bartholomew and seconded by Mr. Sutton.

All were in favor, motion carried.

approved: December 1, 2025
Traci Oliver

Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park Community Survey

Purpose:

The City of Beaufort and the Waterfront Advisory Committee are seeking community input on potential improvements to the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park. Your feedback will help shape the design priorities for future enhancements to this important public space.

1. Connection to Beaufort and the Waterfront Park

Which of the following best describes your connection to Beaufort and the Waterfront Park?

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Resident within the City of Beaufort
 - ☐ Live outside the City but visit Beaufort regularly
 - ☐ Property owner in the downtown or impacted area
 - ☐ Business owner in the downtown core area
 - ☐ Visitor or tourist
 - ☐ Other (please specify) _____
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2. Frequency of Use

How often do you visit or use the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park?

- ☐ Daily
 - ☐ Weekly
 - ☐ Monthly
 - ☐ A few times a year
 - ☐ Rarely or never
-

3. Age Group

Please select your age group:

- ☐ Under 25
 - ☐ 25–44
 - ☐ 45–64
 - ☐ 65 or older
-

4. Primary Reasons for Visiting

Please rank the following reasons for visiting the park from 1 (most important) to 7 (least important):

- ☐ Dining and shopping
 - ☐ Relaxation and waterfront views
 - ☐ Walking or exercise
 - ☐ Events or festivals
 - ☐ Children's play areas
 - ☐ Boating or marina access
 - ☐ Other (please specify) _____
-

5. Park Use and Satisfaction

On a scale of 1–5 (1 = Very dissatisfied, 5 = Very satisfied), how satisfied are you with the following?

- Overall layout and design
 - Seating and shaded areas
 - Green spaces and landscaping
 - Waterfront access and views
 - Event space and infrastructure
 - Accessibility (wheelchairs, strollers, etc.)
 - Cleanliness and maintenance
 - Lighting
 - Bathroom facilities
-

6. What do you like most about the current park?

7. What aspects of the current park could be improved?

8. Do you see any safety issues with the current park design?

If yes, please describe:

9. Day Dock Use

How often do you **moor your vessel to the Day Dock** (tie off your boat, not just visit or board from it)?

- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Never

10. Water Access

Should **additional access for smaller watercraft** (such as kayaks, paddleboards, or small personal boats) be a design priority in the future?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

11. Vessel Accommodation

Should the park's design accommodate docking or tie-up for any of the following vessel types? *(Check all that you would support)*

- ☐ Recreational small boats
 - ☐ Kayaks and paddleboards
 - ☐ Shrimp boats
 - ☐ Tour boats
 - ☐ Government vessels
 - ☐ Cruise ships
 - ☐ Other (please specify) _____
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12. Downtown Business Owners / Property Owners Only

- a. How does the park currently impact your business or property?
 - b. What improvements could best support local commerce?
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13. Renovation Priorities

Please **rank the importance** of the following possible improvements to the Waterfront Park (1 = Lowest priority, 5 = Highest priority):

- Enhanced waterfront access
- Additional green space or gardens
- Improved playground or family-friendly areas
- More seating and shaded areas
- Upgraded event/entertainment infrastructure (stage, lighting, etc.)
- Art installations or cultural elements
- Eco-friendly/sustainable features
- Fitness or recreational facilities
- Accessibility improvements
- Parking enhancements

14. Design and Character

How important is it to you that the current park design remain largely the same?

- ☐ Very important
 - ☐ Somewhat important
 - ☐ Neutral
 - ☐ Not important
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15. Additional Feedback

Please share any other comments or suggestions regarding the Waterfront Park renovation: