

Town of James Island
Minutes of the Tree Advisory Council
May 12, 2026 – 5 p.m.

Present: Chair - Robin Hardin, Paul Cantrell, Bridget Lussier. Council Liaison – Mayor Brook Lyon, Susan Milliken, Lynda Glover, Town Staff liaison - Parker Richardson. **Absent:** Val Henshaw, Jenny Welch, David Tomblin

April 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes: A correction was brought to the attention of the TAC— First Baptist Church received the “Tree Steward Award” for their live oak trees. A motion was made to approve the April 14, 2026 minutes with this revision by Susan Milliken, seconded by Chair Hardin. Minutes approved unanimously with the revision.

TOJI Tree Advisory Council Vice-Chair for 2026-27: The TAC discussed council officers for the coming year. Chair Hardin nominated Lynda Glover for Vice-Chair, seconded by Bridget Lussier. Lynda Glover accepted the nomination. The TAC voted unanimously for Lynda Glover – Vice-Chair.

Grant Application - “FY25 Natural Disaster & Recovery Supplemental Funding for 2022, 2023 & 2024 Events”: The TAC discussed the grant application due to the SC Forestry Commission by May 15, 2026. Information regarding the pilot program of the six oaks already planted at Camp Road Middle School will be added to the grant application. The TAC reviewed the draft of the grant application provided by Bridget Lussier. Bridget L, Chair Hardin, Susan M. and Mayor Lyon will finalize the grant application, and it will be submitted by Friday, May 15, 2026 via email. If approved, the grant will involve the planting of trees at Camp Road Middle School and educational efforts by the TAC for James Island residents regarding tree plantings, tree care and maintenance; plus the TOJI Tree Ordinance via Town Markets and other events. A motion was made by Bridget Lussier to submit the TAC/Town of James Island grant application by May 15, 2026, seconded by Chair Hardin. The motion unanimously passed.

Tree Awards: Presentations and Nominations: Mayor Lyon has reached out to Holy Cross Cemetery regarding the canopy and steward awards for their live oaks. She is waiting to hear back from them and will report back at the next meeting. Mayor Lyon and Chair Hardin provided an update on the Tree Steward Award event at First Baptist Church. The TAC will look for pretty crape myrtles to award later in the summer.

2026-27 Calendar of Meeting & Events – TAC Meetings, Tree Giveaway(s), Spring Educational Tree Planting: Mayor Lyon updated the TAC regarding the status of the fruit trees order through Hyams Garden Center for the Fall Trees Giveaway (Town Market)-The invoice will be paid soon for the order to ensure the trees are here in time for the Friday, November 6, 2026 Town Market. Chair Hardin provided a handout to council members with the TAC meeting dates for the upcoming 2026-2027 fiscal year. Dates are as follows:

ADD IN DATES FOR TAC MEETINGS 2026-2027.

Chair Hardin has reached out to Camp Road Middle School regarding a Spring 2027 tree planting with teachers and students and will report back. Camp Road Middle School is the only island school located in the Town's jurisdiction and still needs more trees on their campus.

For the Good of the Order: The next meeting of the TAC will be in September 2026 as the TAC will take off the summer months. If necessary due to business that arises, the TAC may meet virtually. TAC members will be notified by email if this is necessary. Motion was made to cancel the June 2026 meeting by Susan M, seconded by Chair Hardin and unanimously passed.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of TOJI TAC will be Tuesday, _____2026, 5 p.m.