



Dear Members:

Enclosed you will find the information necessary to vote in the 2018 KICA Board of Directors election. The board is comprised of six members of the community and one developer representative. Two board positions need to be filled, with the expiration of my term as well as the term left vacant by the resignation of former director Bruce Stemerman. There are three great candidates running for these two positions, and I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the materials and vote. KICA plays a prominent role in maintaining your quality of life on the island, so it's important to participate in the election process. Another way to positively impact your quality of life is to vote in favor of the enclosed proposal to strengthen KICA's covenant enforcement process. This common sense measure received overwhelming support in last year's election, but the necessary quorum wasn't achieved.

It's been my honor to serve as chairman for the past year, and I'm proud to report that KICA is in great shape. We have a very solid leader in Jimmy Bailey, who has a proven ability to attract, retain and motivate a very talented staff that does a great job keeping our island looking great (even after some incredibly rough weather) and ensuring entry onto Kiawah is efficient and pleasant for members and guests. We are in solid fiscal shape, and Jimmy and his staff have developed a budget for 2018 that will ensure we remain so, without requiring a dues increase.

The past year was a busy one for KICA, and once again included some challenges. For the second year in a row we were faced with cleaning up after a severe storm, and once again our team did an excellent job. While the clean-up of debris happened quickly, we're continuing to repair and replace storm damaged boardwalks, some of which are on their third replacement in the last five years. The Rhett's Bluff dock, which was partially replaced after Hurricane Matthew and severely damaged again during Tropical Storm Irma, has now been completely replaced with some additional improvements for kayakers.

Another accomplishment includes the successful negotiation of a land trade with the developer, and the subsequent member vote to approve it. This agreement ended four years of costly litigation, preserves in perpetuity the pristine entry to the island, and provides additional property to KICA with immense day-to-day operational value. It was truly a community effort, with extraordinary support from the Kiawah Conservancy and others, and resulted in an overwhelming 87% "yes" vote by the membership.

We've also made significant investments in infrastructure over the past year. We completed more than \$1.7 million in repairs to our drainage system, repaved the Kiawah Island Parkway, and applied a rejuvenator product to nearly one-third of our 60 miles of island roads, which should extend their useful lives significantly and ease the long-term financial burden.

Last Spring we began reviewing options for upgrading the Sandcastle, and over the summer approved plans that will add a second pool, upgrade fitness, improve food and beverage service and become a much more attractive facility by taking full advantage of the ocean views. Our team worked tirelessly over a short period to get this plan designed, engineered, permitted, and competitively bid so the work could begin in the fall with a goal of reopening by July. Importantly, all these improvements will be accomplished without the need for additional assessments.

Significant moves have been made to enhance KICA's governance, including the development of clearer delineation between board and staff roles and responsibilities, the creation of a framework for policies to guide the staff and future boards, and the approval of KICA policies governing debt, reserves, and funding of named storm clean-up.

We also improved transparency at KICA in several ways, including the development of much easier to understand financial reporting, the sharing of key policies, and live streaming all board meetings so off-island members can stay informed. In addition, more focus has been put on gathering broad community input, supplementing live meetings by a more active effort to execute community surveys.

I am honored to have been chair, and have enjoyed my time on the board. I will close out my service at the **Annual Meeting on Friday, March 2 at 2 p.m. at the Kiawah Island Municipal Center Town Hall** and I encourage you to attend. Whether or not you can attend, I encourage you to cast your vote by absentee ballot, so that quorum can be established to hold the meeting. I also encourage anyone interested in future board service to attend our meetings, and consider running next year.

Dave Singer
Chair, KICA Board of Directors