

2021 KICA BOARD CANDIDATE

Luke Farrell

Member Since 2018
101 Goldeneye Dr
Single-Family Home
Full-Time Resident
Governor's Club Member



Candidate Overview

My wife and I began coming to Kiawah in 1990. We first vacationed here with her parents as they were exploring Kiawah as a place to retire. We have been coming every year since, both vacationing with friends and later to visit with my wife's parents once they retired to Kiawah. Since that first visit, our family has not missed a year either vacationing in the summer, visiting family for the holidays, or both.

Many years ago, we decided that when the time came to retire, we would retire to Kiawah. It had become a second home to our family, and we had friends and family here as well. About 5 years ago, we began looking seriously and in September of 2018 we purchased a home on Goldeneye Dr.

My plan was to retire this year, so in early 2020, we hired an architect and selected a builder to begin

renovations. When COVID-19 hit the US, we, like many others, were asked to work from home. We came to Kiawah and I have worked from our house here since early March. While we still have a home in Manhattan Beach, CA, that has become our vacation house and we have moved our residency to South Carolina. We now live on Kiawah full-time, and I plan on working from home on Kiawah through 2021.

Since we lived at the beach in California, you could easily guess that our family is a beach family. That has been our anchor to Kiawah. Having grown up in the Tidewater area of Virginia, I have never lived more than an hour from the ocean. And while we love the beach, we enjoy boating and fishing the Kiawah River. We may also be found playing tennis or golf on the weekends. Most mornings, you can find my wife and I out for a walk on the beach or on



a short bike ride before I head upstairs to my home office.

Community Involvement

Community service with KICA is important on Kiawah, especially in areas that need help with environmental issues, planning/engineering solutions and financial cost control. Most recently I was involved with the Athletics Space Planning Commission in Manhattan Beach, CA. This was a group jointly formed by the town and the school board to look at all of the field space in Manhattan Beach and devise a plan to rationalize and renovate the high school field space in coordination with all other public school and town athletic space. The goal was to renovate and improve utilization of the high school athletic fields, increase multi-purpose use and where needed, renovate field space throughout the town to accommodate school sports and improve the accommodation and use by town athletic clubs. This was a multi-disciplined commission charged with a difficult task of balancing stakeholders, land use requirements, limited resources, lighting restrictions and a \$20M renovation budget. The key to our success was to eliminate issues that divided the stakeholders, actively look for and avoid unintended consequences, listen to commonly held experiences or viewpoints and clearly communicate the solution rationale and cost efficiency.

Professional Background

Throughout my career, I have been responsible for managing area operating budgets, large, multi-million-dollar projects, analyzing company financials, investing on behalf of large clients, corporations or Sovereigns and building and developing teams of people in engineering and/or investing. The ability to analyze known and unknown financial information, combined with

balancing multi-stakeholder objectives to arrive at an economically agreeable outcome has been the hallmark of my experience. Importantly, communicating the implications and outcomes to a diverse audience at an understandable level of detail is probably my greatest strength.

Board Service Statement

My wife and I have a strong passion for Kiawah. It has been a home to my family for almost 30 years. I am running for the KICA board to do my part to help preserve, protect and maintain Kiawah for the next generation. I do not see anything on Kiawah that is broken. My predecessors on the KICA board and at the town have done an admirable job of planning, developing and managing Kiawah Island. That skill, approach and stewardship to having Kiawah be a unique and enviable place to live is what I hope to continue and where I want to contribute. This environment does not just happen. It requires hard work, thought, patience and balance by the KICA Board, the residents of Kiawah and by other stakeholders that visit or work on the island.

I hope to help continue that stewardship, to help preserve a 5-star environment, and to do so in a way that reflects well on Kiawah Island and on the KICA board. I hope to bring my experience in the areas of finance and engineering to analyzing solutions and controlling costs while upgrading and improving the island. I expect to bring additional balance and thought to board decision making, representing the broad voice of all property owners. And it is my strong desire to impact decisions that seek to maintain a high quality of life for all who live on or visit Kiawah Island.

View Luke's video interview at kica.us/vote.

