

Open Space Committee



Open Space is the Soul of the Community.

Happy New Year from the Open Space Committee! We hope everyone had a nice holiday.

We will continue to update the community about our ongoing work by reporting at the board meetings and publishing a newsletter every 4 months (February, June, October). Our newsletters are posted on the IOB website under the Homeowners section: Community Resources / Open Space Committee. Our first was published October 2024.

Contest Winners:

In our October newsletter and at the annual meeting we asked for your help in coming up with a name for the park on Lot 17, where we recently installed a picnic table and 4 chairs. We also asked for help in naming the Belle Grove footpaths. We received a number of very good entries; apt and descriptive for our neighborhood. Our committee chose these winning entries:

- Lot 17 Park - "Sunset Point"
- Belle Grove Footpaths - "Palmetto", "Magnolia", and "Oak"

Thank you very much for your interest and great ideas!

November Board Meeting Nets us Five Benches to Place Around the Neighborhood!



Bruce, Kat and Linda at Jeff Gresham Park on Islands Avenue

Committee members attended the November board meeting and asked for benches to be placed throughout the neighborhood. The board granted us two benches from the pickleball courts, and approved the purchase of three more benches. (We secured a great deal on Black Friday!) These were delivered and put together just after Christmas and placed around the community by the committee.



Babernitsh family: Laurie, Kyle, Tyler and pups at the crossroads of the footpath from De La Gaye to the clubhouse



Bill and Belle near bridge to Cotton Island



Kat and Alex on De La Gaye dock pathway

We are still looking at available community property for the best location to place the 5th bench.

This year we plan to add walking trails to Sunset Point and Belle Grove Park and add signs to indicate the entrances to the neighborhood footpaths. We also would like to add some seating and a picnic table to Belle Grove Park and develop the marsh viewing area near the current basketball court.

Open Space is a valuable amenity that provides us with places to gather and to appreciate the natural beauty of the Islands of Beaufort. Open space bestows personality on a community, improves everyday living and increases property values. We hope to explore other ways to preserve open space that is affordable for the community. We will be working closely with the Landscape Committee to ensure our goals are compatible.

Please support us as we work to improve and enhance the place we all call home. We welcome your ideas and suggestions, don't hesitate to reach out to any of us on the committee with your comments. Committee members include: Linda Tunstall - Chair, Bill Prokop, Bruce Sullivan, Kat Klingler, Laurie Babernitsh, and Alex Kent - Board Liaison.

Please bookmark the [Island of Beaufort homeowners site](#) to stay up to date with neighborhood news and upcoming events including: Saturday February 8th 5pm Souper Bowl Party, Friday March 14th first Docktail for 2025 at the De La Gaye dock.