

Board of Commissioners Policy No. 12

**Samuel Swann Bland Outstanding Community Service Award**

**A. Background**

The Swansboro Board of Commissioners created, in February 2009, the Samuel Swann Bland Community Service Award to honor the diligence, hard work, leadership, and dedication that characterized the outstanding contributions of Sam Bland, the former superintendent of Hammocks Beach State Park, to the public and to the Swansboro community.

This award is to be annually awarded to a public employee, civic leader, or community volunteer that has demonstrated the qualities of outstanding dedication to the improvement of community services that were exhibited in the career and contributions of Samuel Swann Bland.

**B. Nominations**

The Town shall annually, in July or August of each year, advise the public (via the news media) and local community organizations that it is accepting nominations for the Samuel Swann Bland Community Service Award. Nominations shall be submitted in a form specified by the town manager. Nominations shall be submitted by August 31 of each year.

**C. Selection**

Unless otherwise specified by the Board of Commissioners, the nominations shall be reviewed by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. The principal criteria for selection of an award recipient shall be as follows:

1. Impact. Consistent and diligent pursuit of public, civic, or volunteer responsibilities in a manner which clearly and visibly contributes to the improvement of the community;
2. Effort. Dedicated and conscientious pursuit of public, civic, or volunteer responsibilities in a manner that significantly exceeds the normal requirements of time and attention to duty;
3. Stewardship. Demonstrated ability to marshal, acquire, and/or cost-effectively use necessary and available human, physical, and/or financial resources to accomplish projects or programs for the benefit of the Swansboro community;
4. Initiative. Demonstrated willingness and ability to exercise personal vision and initiative to address community needs, accomplish community improvements, and/or improve the quality of life for Swansboro residents.
5. Innovation. Demonstrated willingness and ability to use new or improved methods that accomplish, in a unique and/or expeditious manner, important tasks or projects that benefit the Swansboro community.

The selection process shall be completed during the month of September each year.

**D. Award**

The award recipient shall be announced in October of each year at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Commissioners. The recipient of the award shall be recognized through the award of a plaque or other such commemorative as may be preferred by the Board of Commissioners and may also receive such other prizes that the Board may, in its discretion, elect to include as part of the award or which may be contributed by the community.

*Approved 7/21/09*