

Board of Commissioners Policy No.12-b

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 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 October 31 of each year.

C. Selection

Unless otherwise specified by the Board of Commissioners, the nominations shall be reviewed by the Mayor and the 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 financial resources to accomplish projects or programs for the benefit of the Swansboro community;
4. Initiative. 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 November each year.

D. Award

The award recipient shall be announced in December 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.

In addition, award recipient shall be added to the plaque displayed in the lobby of Town Hall and a banquet/reception will be held in honor of the recipients to include their family and friends and past recipients in January at the Recreation Center.

Approved 7/21/09

Amended 8/22/2022

Amended 9/8/2026