

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting – 21 August 2018

Members Present:

- Danny Hein – Chair
- Wayne Rundell – Vice-Chair
- Cody Owen
- Bob Hurring
- Kevin Smith
- Gregory Copeland
- Jared Mull – Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order: Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The commission reviewed the minutes from the July 2018 and approved them unanimously.

Public Comment

- Pinky Byrd extended an invitation from the Board of Directors from the Friends of Silvermont for a “Party in the Park” on Sunday, September 23rd, from 1:00 until 4:00 to celebrate the support from the commission. The floors have been redone, there is art work hanging, along with many other improvements. The only distressing item is the roof is leaking and plaster has started to fall in several areas around a vent pipe. This has been taken care of with the maintenance workers of the county.
- The Friends of Silvermont was created by the county to advise the county commissioners on what should occur in the house. The Friends of Silvermont were asked to pay \$100 in rental fees for the “Party in the Park.” The Friends of Silvermont have donated countless thousands of dollars for improving the house, and being asked to pay a rental fee was perceived as an insult.

Partner Updates

City Updates – Jim Fatland

- Jim Fatland did not attend so there was no action under this agenda item.
- The city did not meet in July nor will they meet in August.

Old Business

- Silvermont Master Plan
 - There have been some negative reactions to the rough draft master plan for Silvermont. It appears as though it has not been fully communicated that one, it is a rough draft, not final version, two, it is a long-term plan, and three, the athletic facilities, the tennis and basketball courts, would not be taken away until there is an alternative place for the courts. Parks and Rec is working with Site Works to

hold another public input meeting to gauge the reactions of the community and commissioners with the plan. What could be troubling, is if all of the county parks were funded for a master plan, there was negative feedback received, and the county decided not to go with that plan and money has been wasted. Erosion and flood water damage has been noted as well.

- The board approved this plan predicated on the belief the courts would be moved only when there was another location found for public courts as well as informing the public that this is a 15 to 20 year plan.
- If the land was identified of the new location for the courts, it could be perceived better by the community.
- Jared will ensure he provides the commission with the date of the public input meeting and that the newspaper and commissioners are invited.
- Facility Use Policy
 - The board received a form of the facility use policy that was drafted by Jonathan Griffin and Jared Mull. Community partner groups were identified that would not be charged for rental of the facilities up to thirty hours. After the thirty hours have been exceeded, which none of the groups have in the past two years, the groups would be subjected to the same rental fees set by the county commissioners.
 - This provides uniformity in the rental fees to ensure these issues are not brought up to the commissioners in the form of a fee waiver, but rather it would be handled in house.
 - This is not in lieu of a fee structure, but could be a step towards establishing a fee structure. The board would like to reach out to the various community partner groups to ensure they are on board and are able to provide input at the next meeting so that it does not become an extended issue.

New Business

- Tennis Reservations/Policy
 - Jared was able to reach out to other counties to see their policies on tennis court usage. Jared was also able to reach out to the tennis coaches that utilize the tennis court facilities at Silvermont. His plan would be for court 1 and 2 have the ability to be reserved by contacting Mandi at Silvermont while court 3 cannot be reserved and is based on a first come, first serve basis. The reserved courts can bleed over to the third court only if there is no one using that court and no one comes during that time. The coaches that utilize the tennis courts are in agreement with this plan.
 - It was recommended by the board to place a time limit on court 3 if there are individuals waiting.
 - This plan could be included in the facility use policy.
- Pickleball Courts Update
 - Jared is currently working with the maintenance team to get quotes for the concrete for the pickleball courts. Two trees will be taken out to accommodate the

courts which will extend past the building. There will easily be enough room for four courts with barriers between the courts and a seating area.

- Grading and concrete pouring should hopefully be done within the next five to six months.
- The funding has been approved by the commissioners.

Recreation Update

- The summer programs were wrapped up last week. The last camp was completed this past Friday. This was the first summer that full day camps were offered thanks to the air conditioning. The feedback surveys were positive and have asked for even more camp options for next year.
- Summer league basketball was wrapped up this past week as well. The winner was the same team from the previous year, Hometown Hardware of Haywood County.
- Fall programs will begin soon, including senior games basketball, volleyball programs, flag football, etc. as well as the rental programs, gymnastics, etc.
- The Little League will start the Sandlot Baseball program which is a free program for 6-12 year olds on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This will include drills and then the group, based on their age, will be split up and they will play each other.

City Update:

- Jim Fatland did not attend so there was no action under this agenda item.

Director Update:

- Jared is excited to be here and stay here in his new role as director. He thinks highly of each of the commission members and believes this is a strong commission. He is appreciative of the time put into serving on this commission and it is making a big impact on our community.
- Jared will be interviewing candidates for the Recreation Coordinator position. There are four candidates from both inside and outside of the county. Jared is hopeful that a decision will be made by early next week.

Member Comments:

- There were no member comments.

Adjournment: The motion was made to adjourn, seconded, and approved unanimously at 7:04 pm.