

Minutes for Parks and Recreation Commission 1/19/21

In attendance: Mandi Bentley, Wyn Birkenthal, Greg Cochran, Bob Hurring, Heather Layton, Jared Mull, Cody Owen, and Wayne Rundell

- 1) Wayne Rundell: welcome and call to order 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of October minutes: Greg made a motion; Cody 2nd and all other members were in favor.
- 3) No public comment was given.
- 4) Old business: (Jared Mull)
 - a. Pickleball court update: The county emailed the company a couple weeks ago requesting them to remove all existing material and reapply the surfacing according to specs. To date, there has not been a response from the company.
 - b. Masterplan update: Jared was unable to attend the commissioners meeting last week so Jaime Laughter presented in his place on the master plan. The board of commissioners chose to put the plan on hold for a short while, giving the new commissioners a chance to get more information about the current master plan process. The plan will be revisited at a capital planning workshop meeting in a couple months.
 - i. Cody: Is there any time sensitive issues that this delay will hurt?
 - ii. Jared: Not to my knowledge.
- 5) New business
 - a. Soccer field drainage repairs: The field in front of the recreation department needs repair. There are 3 drainage boxes and pipe that are around 30 years old that will have to be replaced. Estimated cost for this project is \$30,000.00. Funding for this type of project would normally come out of the Operations line item in the budget. David McNeill is requesting that the funds come out of the Parks and Recreation capital reserve fund and would like for this board to vote on that.
 - i. Greg: are there any guidelines that say what these funds should be used for?
 - ii. Jared: Parks and Recreation capital improvements. We have used funds for work on the PARTF grant, trail maintenance in Pisgah National Forest, Jameson's Joy, and new showers for the recreation center.
 - iii. Cody: I believe this would be an appropriate use of the funds. What is the fund balance now?
 - iv. Jared: over \$700,000.00.
 - v. Cody: Made a motion to use funds from the Parks and Recreation capital reserve to make necessary improvements to the field.
 - vi. Bob: 2nd; all in favor.
 - b. Recreation update: (Mandi Bentley) **Kids camp:** takes place on Fridays and teacher workdays through February. **Indoor Fun Play:** Monday & Wednesday 2-5-year-old. **Winter Wonder Days:** Pre – K on Thursday's 4 programs left. 3-5-year-old. **Youth basketball:** 81 participants. 3 years old through 8th grade. Skills and drills each week to teach and improve game. On the last night, kids will participate in a free throw competition, obstacle course, and hot shot competition. Medals will be awarded to first place in each category as well as the most improved participant. **Parks and Wreckage**

- Combine:** 6th – 12th grade. Athletes test their athletic ability and see how they stack up in the 40-yard dash, vertical jump, 20-yard shuttle, bench press and broad jump. Each participant will receive a combine shirt. **Saturday, February 6th.** Registration deadline is January 27th. **Silvermont:** programs are open 10 max capacity.
- c. Directors update: (Jared Mull)
- i. Jared will be making a presentation to commissioners in February on the trends at Parks and Recreation throughout the year. Theme will be Clint Eastwood, (The Good, The Bad and The Ugly) as he highlights accomplishments and the great work that has been completed as well as where we look bad and need to make improvements.
 - ii. Over the next month, Parks and Recreation commission members need to be thinking about whether they want to be a chair or vice-chair over the next year. If interested, let Jared know and he will get a list of names together for a vote.
 - iii. Jared is currently working on budget prep for next fiscal year and is looking at ways to improve operations.
 - iv. Jared will be presenting at the South Carolina Parks and Recreation Summit on signature programs. Jared was asked to present based on our signature programs, Christmas in the Park, Battle for the Belt and Kids Camp.
- 6) Member comments:
- a. Wayne: Thank you for all your department is doing. Kids need to be doing something and we are grateful for your programs.
 - b. Heather: Would like a flyer emailed to her about the Combine.
 - c. Wayne: Asked if there could be a Facebook live on the last night of basketball since parents are not able to attend.
 - d. Bob: inquired about the possibility of Silvermont Strummers being able to come back to Silvermont on Thursday.
 - e. Cody: Has there been any talk about the Ecusta Trail? Jared: No.
- 7) Adjournment: Bob made a motion; Cody 2nd and all members were in favor. 6:45 p.m.