

Minutes Parks & Recreation Commission

6-20-17

Attendees:

- Chair – Kevin Smith
- Vice Chair – Sammy Kicklighter
- Secretary – Coty Ferguson
- Bob Hurring
- Heather Layton
- Parks & Rec Director – Carleen Dixon
- Recreation Manager – Jared Mull

Call to Order:

Kevin Smith called the meeting to order at 6:10

Introduction of New Members:

Bob and Heather introduced themselves as the commission's newest members

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve May 16, 2017 minutes as presented made by Sammy seconded by Coty and unanimously approved.

Parks & Recreation Commission Officer Elections

Elections were rescheduled due to the absence of three committee members

Old Business:

A) HVAC in Gymnasium

- There have been some logistical challenges that relate to location of HVAC units and their proximity to water/sewer lines. Those issues have been resolved and plans are moving forward.
- Kevin asked if this upgrade would also provide heat in the winter, to which Carleen said, yes. The current heating system (furnace) is beyond its lifecycle and will be removed, increasing efficiency and storage space.

B) Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

- Master plan was presented to the county commissioners again at their last meeting. Approval was sought for the plan with the removal of the county/city merger section
- City of Brevard is not interested in working towards consolidation but have stated that they are willing to work on joint park projects
- The plan was approved, and it is the first parks & recreation master plan to be adopted by the county
- Adoption of the master plan does not allocate funds to any of the projects, it simply provides strategic guidance moving forward
- Bob inquired as to how the master plan related to the Silvermont interior restoration project. Carleen shared that the Board of Commissioners wanted to evaluate the overall needs of Parks and Recreation before they determined what projects they would fund next. The BOC already funded the full exterior restoration and noted that the structural integrity was a top priority; this work has been complete over the last 4 years and the structure (mansion) is in good shape.

C) Budget Update

- The Budget that has been recommended includes the majority of the items we requested for the budget. Carleen was confident that the budget would be a good step for funding parks and recreation needs over the next fiscal year if approved next week at the Board of Commissions meeting.

New Business:

A) Recreation Update

- Little explorers camp went well, received great feedback
- Camps beginning in Rosman next week, and will resume in Brevard
- Adult basketball league is in progress
 - Season typically ends with a game against Henderson County champion, however, Henderson County is not running an adult basketball league this year
- Heather inquired as to whether soccer and flag football schedules were in conflict
 - Jared said that there was some overlap in game days but they do not conflict on field use and it was noted that last season some kids played in both leagues

B) July is Parks and Recreation Month

- Photo contest has been approved
 - It is being heavily promoted on Facebook
 - Winner receives a \$100 credit to a program over the next year

C) Parks Director Update

- Public Safety building has undergone some major landscaping work
- Connetsee Falls parking lot has been redone
- Island Ford River Access parking lot is being improved; grading work, extensive graveling, and boulder borders are being installed
- South Broad Park had some landscaping work done to open up the park a bit with the hope of discouraging homeless people from sleeping in the park

Member Comments:

- Bob inquired about the use of facilities by private entities.
 - Carleen said that fields are available for use but there are insurance requirements depending on type of use
- Kevin would like to explore how we can encourage more engagement with the county commissioners, especially after learning that the city's parks committee has Council members at the table
 - Coty echoed that sentiment
 - Discussion on how we could best strengthen the relationship ensued

Adjournment:

Sammy made motion to adjourn at 7:21, seconded by Bob, and unanimously approved