

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting (21 July 2016) Minutes

Call to Order: 6:30pm

Attendees: Carleen Dixon, Kevin Bryan Smith, Sammy Kicklighter, Jan Plemmons, Wayne Rundell, & Coty Ferguson

Public Comment: Speaker from Friends of Silvermont ("Friends") requested \$6300 from the committee to pay for electrical expansion to cover tennis courts, basketball court, and picnic area on the grounds. The speaker also informed the committee that the Friends would be hosting a pumpkin patch once again at Silvermont this fall.

Nomination and Election of Officers:

- a. Chair: Kevin Bryan Smith will remain committee chairman; self-nominated and unanimously approved
- b. Vice-Chair: Nomination and voting on vice-chair was moved to August meeting
- c. Secretary: Coty Ferguson was nominated and unanimously approved as committee secretary

Approval of Minutes: minutes were not available for approval for May or June; Carleen will request from Jeff so they will be available for next meeting

Old Business:

- a. Strategic Plan Update: We are in final stages of edits and are working on an Executive Summary current which will be a 15 page overview of the 200+ page document. Task Force and Consultant are still planning to present the plan in a joint City/County meeting on September 26, 2016. It is suggested in the plan by the consultants that Parks and Rec. Dept. needs to recoup 30% of operating costs and currently recoup 0.5% of operating costs.
- b. Rosman Community Park: Carleen notified the committee that the new sign was installed and the benches had been installed at the park. A donation by the Brevard Rotary Club allowed for the purchase of park benches.

New Business:

- a. Proclamation: The County Commissioners issued a proclamation honoring July as Parks & Recreation Month
 - i. Committee members and the public have been encouraged to share photos of park usage with the Parks Dept. on Facebook best photo will win \$100 credit for a program or rental
- b. Recreation Update: hand out was provided and Carleen reviewed a couple of the highlights since Jared was working Summer league basketball (summary attached at bottom)
 - i. Wayne shared that he was concerned with the numbers registered for the New Flag Football program and he did not want to see it get cancelled due to low

enrollment. A discussion went on about ways to promote the program before the deadline of July 31.

c. Parks Update: Carleen noted the lack of staffing and challenges with keeping up with basic maintenance. Shared picture of tree in South Broad Park that got hit by lightning and the damage done to the park. Working on new equipment purchases with the Fiscal Year 17 budget approved; parks will be getting a large 128" mower which will improve mowing efficiencies.

d. Memorial Proposal: A motion was made, and unanimously approved as presented, to allow for the placement of a bench and/or planting of a new tree at South Broad Park for the Duckworth Family.

e. Rentals at Silvermont: Carleen sought feedback on the resumption of rentals at Silvermont from the committee. The committee was supportive of this moving forward.

i. Wayne and Coty suggested that the fee structure be examined; both suggested that significantly higher fees may be possible for special events such as weddings.

ii. Sammy inquired about security deposits and methods of collection; Carleen stated that a deposit will not be collected due to the fees to collect and return with cards however the contract will have language that allows us to charge them for any damage.

Member Comments:

a. Sammy shared with the committee some concerns of the Transylvania Youth Soccer Association ("TYSA")

i. TYSA would like the Parks & Rec. Dept. to reinforce the fact that soccer goals are property of TYSA not the County.

ii. TYSA has concerns over upcoming fees associated with field usage and their effects on soccer enrollment

iii. TYSA would like to add to the existing signage request seeking labeling of the fields; discussion of field signage noting it could be difficult to sign fields because they change a couple times a year so temporary signage might be more effective

b. Coty mentioned that he could discuss promotion of the flag football program with White Squirrel Radio morning show host Ea Dossey. He also stated that he would obtain the Brevard Academy teacher work day and half day schedule, in order to determine if there is a need for more Play the Day Away mini-camps.

Adjournment: motion to adjourn was moved and unanimously approved