

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
March 8, 2022

I. Call to Order

- Laura Botto called the Meeting to order. The Meeting was held in Building G, Parks and Recreation Conference Room.

II. Invocation

- Laura Botto gave the Invocation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2022 Meeting

- **Mike Sullivan made a Motion to accept the Minutes as approved and Kris Crane seconded. The Minutes were approved 3 to 0.**

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

V. Commission Business Session

- **Rick Griffith USA Pickleball**

Rick Griffith introduced himself as the USA Pickleball Ambassador for the south end of the county. Stated OIB Park maintenance staff was great but had some problems he would like to see taken care of. Mr. Griffith said the net on court 3 had 2 wooden blocks holding it up for the past 2 years and needed to be repaired. Second, requested 36-inch curved blue roller squeegees with handles instead of sponge rollers based on he felt they pushed the water better. Aaron Perkins indicated that the county bids out everything over \$250.00. Thirdly, Mr. Griffith requested shades for the pickleball area. Aaron explained our Department had checked into shade structures. Must have 3 quotes and have to meet wind zone of 120 mph. Quotes received were \$34,000 for 6 x 18 shade. Kris Crane stated that cost had gone up 38% in last weeks. Aaron also stated that should additional amenities be added to the pickleball area that shade structures would prohibit. Aaron suggested individuals utilizing pop up tents for shade. Mr. Griffith inquired about wind shades and Aaron said everything has to meet permitting. Mr. Griffith asked about plans for additional courts at OIB Park. Aaron stated that needs are with other parks at this time. Mr. Griffith stated that long term planning indicated more pickleball courts in 3 to 5 years. Aaron said once the Comprehensive Master Plan is completed it would tell us more. The Plan proposed 9 new parks in the future and site master plan guides what goes in the parks. Aaron stated that Phase 1 at OIB Park was all about tennis courts but Phase 2 requested pickleball courts. Carol Harpster, who attended with Mr. Griffith, asked where the closest area to OIB Park is with pickleball courts and Mr. Griffith asked what other County Parks have pickleball courts. Aaron stated that Smithville Park has 4 courts and OIB Park 6 courts for a total of 10 dedicated courts. In addition, Town Creek Park, Waccamaw Park, Northwest Park and Shallotte Park have tennis courts that are marked for pickleball as well. Mr. Griffith continued by introducing Joe Matthews who plays pickleball with him. Stated that Mr. Matthews was laid out on the courts at North Myrtle Beach and went into cardiac arrest. Got AED to assist. Chance of survival would have been 2% without the AED. Mr.

Griffith questioned what would happen if this had occurred at OIB Park. Aaron asked where the AED was located at NMB. Mr. Griffith stated inside a building. Aaron stated that county government has one on site and that EMS has them on trucks. Aaron additionally indicated that an AED would need to be located in a building and if done would need to be at all parks and not just OIB Park. Would have to address access to AED and who could open and close location. Ms. Harpster asked what happens if someone dies because there isn't one. Aaron stated the parks are public parks that you attend at your own risk. Khrystye Haselden, 50+ Coordinator for P&R stated that she has been in her position for 20 years with our Department. When she inquired about AEDs with prior Director, it was stated it was a liability issue. Mr. Matthews stated he works for company that OSHA mandated them at. Aaron stated if OSHA mandated them, we would do. Mr. Griffith stated he has spoken with Rick Burns who oversees CPR and he says you have 10 minutes to save a life. Aaron will talk with Risk Management and Legal.

Mr. Griffith stated that courts at OIB Park are highly used. He plays 5 mornings a week and some evenings. His group consist of 40 men with 15 regular players. Seems to be no place to play now based on the demand being so heavy. Mr. Griffith ask that based on this that we place signage that states play game to 11 then get off and stack paddles and get back in line. Mr. Griffith said current signage states limit to 1 hour of play which leaves a lot of pissed off people. Aaron said when OIB Park first opened pickleball courts we had a lot of complaints about usage. Based on this our office formed a pickleball committee, which Ms. Harpster is part of. The committee came up with signage that is currently at Park. Aaron stated he has reached out to committee and has a meeting set for 3/23/22 to discuss signage. At this time, option would be for the committee to decide if they want signage to read:

1. First come, first serve;
2. Play to 1 hour;
3. Play to 30 minutes; or
4. Play to 11, go off court and get in back of line.

Aaron stated it is up to the committee to choose.

Kris asked if there are complaints at Smithville Park. Aaron said we have no complaints at Smithville. Mr. Harpster asked if we have the same current signage there. Aaron said yes and that Les, the instructor there has no issues.

VI. Director's Report

• Update on Smithville Park Project

Have received check for BEMC for services installation. Mike Sullivan will check on when grinder pump is in and coordinate together. Electrical panel has been updated from 100 amp to 200 amp. McGill is doing design on \$500,000 approved in CIP. Plans underway to reflect walking trails, dog park, basketball court and musco lighting.

• Navassa Park

Duke Energy ran wrong amperage to meter. Submitted work order to drop service down to 100 amp instead of 240.

• GFL

Asking for budget amendment for \$30,000. Allocated \$130,000 for recycling and need more funds. Have added more containers and more pick up days.

VII. Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

No comments.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting

Kris made a Motion to adjourn meeting and Mike seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

IX. Meeting Roll Call

Board Members Present: Laura Botto, Kris Crane and Mike Sullivan

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon and Teagan Perry-Hall

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins, Khrystye Haselden and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: None

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2022