

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
April 13, 2021

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 January 14, 2020 Meeting

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

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

George Briggs and Ted Symanski from Ocean Ridge Plantation were present. Mr. Symanski expressed “kudos” to Senior Softball for the Tuesday and Thursday morning Leagues. Stated he had met Quan and Chuckie with the Parks Maintenance Staff and that the fields looked great. In addition, he has heard that other fields at our surrounding Parks look good. Mr. Briggs inquired about the 10 Year Comprehensive Master Plan. It was his understanding that the County launched a survey and wanted to know if Parks and Recreation would be issuing a separate survey. If so, can Ocean Ridge Plantation have the opportunity to participate in it? Laura Botto stated that we had held internet meetings. Mr. Symanski indicated that he sat in on one of the Zoom meetings, but that last time, when Mike Allocco was on the Advisory Board, P&R came out and did a presentation. Aaron stated that we did public outreach during COVID-19 and had challenges. Held meeting in Calabash for that area. Aaron will see what we can do. Mr. Briggs said he went to the Calabash meeting and saw that meeting as a County Plan and wanted to know the relationship of that Plan and P&R. Aaron explained they are lumped together to do one Plan and survey was same as if we would send it separate. Many groups gave input. We were unable to do physical meetings due to COVID-19. We are still taking input. Mr. Symanski asked if the calendar was extended. Aaron stated yes and that he would send information to Ocean Ridge to be completed and submitted. Mr. Briggs stated that individuals are moving to Brunswick County from all over, New York City, New Jersey, etc. based on being able to work remotely. Aaron shared that 3400 surveys have been turned in and that did not include email responses.

V. Commission Business Session

- **Park Maintenance**

Returned to P&R July 1, 2020. Will be able to maintain and get Parks back on turf management. Have done final budget process for Maintenance and looking to update things within the Parks.

- **10 Year Comprehensive Plan**
Began November 2019 and was limited to how many people could attend meetings based on COVID-19. At that time, it was only 10. Utilized multiple sites to do virtual. 3400 surveys have been submitted to include 87% resident, 15% property owner, 3% businesses and 1% working. Been great working with McGill on the Project. Looking to see what needs to be added. More meetings to come.
- **Youth Sports**
Finally back up and running after a long challenging year. Five and older must wear masks to participate in sports, based on Governor Guidelines. Local Leagues have started.
Mr. Briggs stated that the multipurpose lights were on mostly instead of the baseball fields.
Aaron stated tennis courts and soccer fields are on the entire time from dusk to 10 pm. The other courts and baseball fields have push button lights. Musco is doing away with HID lights and only using LED moving forward.

VI. Director's Report

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Aaron stated restroom facility is in permitting process. Guidelines were updated in 2018 and now must be within 400 feet of fire hydrant. Had to work to get Facility to meet guidelines.

Teagan asked where the Facility was being placed. Aaron said it would be on the side where the water tower is and closest hydrant that is on River Road.

- **Update on Brunswick Waterway Park**

Aaron stated after Goals and CIP Workshop that this Project would be placed on hold. Looking at reimbursement on everything we did to date.

Laura asked if Grants had to be spent at a certain time.

Aaron said yes and we are doing reimbursements for what has been done. Some money may go back to the State.

Laura asked if that would affect future funding.

Aaron stated that he did not think so.

- **Update on Navassa Park**

Aaron stated that building is in place. Brunswick County Utilities has taken over water and sewer for Navassa. Power Company hit a 4-inch main line and flooded Park. Hit another main water line. Hope to have a CO in a few weeks by July 4th.

- **Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members**

Teagan asked with Park Maintenance back how do we manage the bugs/gnats etc.

Aaron said you can reach out to mosquito control and that gnats are not considered infectious. Mosquito Control will do their best to get rid of, but they have always been a problem.

Laura asked if there was anything Aaron wanted them as a Board to be working on.

Aaron stated just betting back into swing of things within the Department.

Administrative Staff for P&R had been working in multiple Departments during COVID-

19. These included EMS, Code Administration, Health Department, Library, PIO and BCC Clinic. Aaron stated that he had also helped with the BCC Clinic.

Parks are open, but not Community Buildings yet.

Aaron also indicated that Parks had remained open through COVID-19 and were probably one of the only Counties that did not shut down. Did modifications on keeping residents out of County Facilities workspace but stayed open. Hope by July to be back to normal.

Laura asked if we would be having concerts.

Aaron stated the Municipalities were hoping to.

VII. Adjourn Meeting

Laura made a Motion to adjourn meeting and Teagan seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

VIII. Meeting Roll Call

Board Members Present: Teagan Perry-Hall, Laura Botto and Mike Sullivan

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon and Kris Crane

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: Ted Symanski and George Briggs

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021