

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
August 10, 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

- Kris Crane gave the Invocation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2021, Meeting

- **Mike Sullivan made a Motion to accept the Minutes as approved and Kris Crane seconded. The Minutes were approved 4 to 0.**

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

V. Commission Business Session

- **Alyssa Coln Special Populations Coordinator**

Aaron introduced Alyssa Coln as the Departments Special Populations Coordinator and asked Alyssa to share a little about herself. Alyssa stated she was from Garner, NC and had worked with the YMCA and nonprofits managing events and volunteers. Her last job was with The Arc doing social work for Special Olympics.

Laura Botto wished her good luck and Kris Crane asked what programs she would oversee in our Department.

Alyssa stated she would oversee Special Populations and be the Local Coordinator for Special Olympics.

- **Parks Presentation**

Aaron presented a slideshow on the County Parks. He began by reading the Mission Statement for the Department and stating we currently have 12 County Parks and 4 Community Buildings. Park Hours are 8 am till 10 pm Spring/Summer and 8 am till 9 pm Fall/Winter, except for Brunswick Nature Park which is open 8 am till Dusk year-round. Stated the North area consist of Brunswick Nature Park, Leland Park, Navassa Park and Northwest Park. Aaron highlighted over the amenities offered at each one and indicated that Brunswick Nature Park, Leland Park and Northwest Park had a large picnic shelter at each for rental, as well as Leland Park providing a Community Building for rent. Stated Brunswick Nature Park had 7 miles of biking trails and 4 miles of hiking trails. Navassa Park is in the process of getting the final CO for the restroom/concession stand. Northwest Park if renovation were to take place could be as much as 14 million now. Aaron continued with stating the South area included Smithville Park, Town Creek Park and Dutchman Creek Park. Aaron indicated that currently the new Deputy County Manager is trying to apply for Grants to use towards enhancing Smithville Park. Smithville Park and Town Creek Park have large shelters for rent, as well as Town Creek offering a Community Building for rental. Town Creek Park had an overhaul renovation in the amount of 5.8 million. This started the process to renovate Parks. The work done for Town Creek Park was done at time of

recession making the cost cheaper. Currently trying to get ADA compliance playgrounds at all park facilities. Dutchman Creek Park is a Park where we want to have ADA playground. The West area consist of Cedar Grove Park, Lockwood Folly Park, Ocean Isle Beach Park, Shallotte Park and Waccamaw Park. Lockwood Folly Park, Ocean Isle Beach Park, Shallotte Park and Waccamaw Park all have a large shelter for rent. Waccamaw Park has a Community Building for rental and Lockwood Folly Community Building is a free-standing Community Building for rent in the Holden Beach area. Cedar Grove Park is next in line for an ADA compliant playground. Aaron stated that Shallotte Park was donated land that consist of a lot of wetlands.

Teagan stated that Town Creek Park has a fitness area and Laura stated that Smithville Park had pickleball courts that needed to be added to Aaron's report.

Mike said Brunswick Nature Park was awesome.

Kris said her husband bikes at Brunswick Nature Park and Teagan stated they take their dogs and children there.

Aaron said they had put in some ABC stone at Brunswick Nature Park.

Kris asked about the Park at Holden Beach.

Aaron said Brunswick Waterway Park was currently not moving forward with anymore development. There is an entrance there and working with Planning Department on the commercial property at the road to allow vendors to sale.

VI. Director's Report

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Aaron stated he received the stormwater modification today and took it to the Engineering Department. Once approved will have permit to get facility into place. Hope to have facility onsite and utilities do the sewer and water. Subs will do the electrical and concrete.

- **Local Baseball/Softball Tournaments Brunswick County Parks
Dixie Belles World Series, Monks Corner, SC
Jr. Dixie Boys World Series, Monroe, LA**

Aaron stated the Dixie Belles and Jr. Dixie Boys were Runners Up in their tournaments. They competed well and he commends the Staff on their efforts with all the participants. They will be getting a Resolution from the Board of Commissioners.

- **Recycling**

Having illegal dumping within the Parks and working with the new Deputy County Manager on.

Laura asked if it was recycling only.

Aaron said Operation Services went out to give an education training on and once they left individuals immediately resumed to illegal dumping. Operation Services had in their budget \$135,000 which is being turned over to Parks and Recreation to monitor and allow for extra pick-ups. Aaron said we are doing our due diligence. Operation Services has suggested signage and being educated will help deter illegal dumping. Aaron stated our staff had been asked to load the contaminated items. Aaron said our Staff is not waste management staff. Laura asked if there was any way to put the recycle in a caged area.

Aaron said it has to be open and staff would have to open and close.

Steve Stone, Deputy County Manager has stated that if locked people will throw items over the fence.

Aaron said municipalities have pulled out, so we are trying to exhaust all options.

Kris asked why have the towns pulled out.

Aaron stated it is based on cost.

Teagan said it is how often they are dumped.

Aaron said Ocean Isle Beach Park and Leland Park are not too bad. The worst locations are Shallotte, Town Creek, Northwest and Lockwood Folly.

Mike said Oak Island is still using recycling, but Leland did away with theirs.

Aaron stated staff did electronic trailers once or twice a week and he would not ask staff to get into contaminated bins.

Teagan said GFL doesn't do it.

VII. Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

Kris stated she was part of the Brunswick Wellness Coalition as a health care provider. They are funded by Duke Foundation to improve the health of Brunswick County. Dr. Lee Lane is the Director. They currently have funds to provide to projects.

Aaron said he has a 2 pm meeting on 8/12/21 regarding that.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting

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

IX. Meeting Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins, Alyssa Coln and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: None

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, September 14, 2021