

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
January 14, 2020

I. Call to Order

- Mike Sullivan 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 November 12, 2019 Meeting

- **Teagan Perry-Hall 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

- **2020 Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan Update (Board is requested to formally approve)**

Aaron passed out the 2020 Strategic Planning Update. He explained that the Comprehensive Master Plan is long term and that the Strategic Plan is short term. The Strategic Plan is done each year to rank the needs of the Parks and estimated costs. The Advisory Board use to rank and vote with the P&R Staff, but it is hard for the Board to visit all the Parks consistently and know all the needs. Currently, the P&R Staff only does the ranking.

Aaron proceeded to go over the ranking and explain some of the needs. It was as follows: **LWF Park** was ranked number 1. A must need in the Staff's eyes. Park is outdated. Has 20+ acres to expand on. Needs parking. BCC uses softball field. Equipment is outdated and restrooms need to be redone and items made ADA compliant.

Kris stated it has a nice playground, but that it has become borderline dangerous on the parking.

NWP was number 2. One of the District Parks. Has 5 ball fields, soccer field and open space. The County does pay as you go, therefore this Project will take time and cost a lot.

Shallotte Park was ranked at number 3. Renovating this Park would need Cama and permits from DQ. Due to flooding, would do minimal improvements such as fencing and Musco lighting. Front restrooms need improvement. Above ground fixtures need to not deteriorate from water. Option is to look for land to move Park to.

Kris asked if there was a big enough plot of land to move the Park.

Aaron said land across Highway 17.

Leland Park is at number 4. Old Park, but well maintained. It is on 11 acres and has 2 ballfields and 2 concession stands. One concession had remediation for mold and on 1/21/20 the Board of Commissioners voted to remove that one. May put another shelter there in that area once removed. Has a new playground and we demolished the old Senior Building some time back.

Cedar Grove Park Phase 2 is number 5. Has 75+ acres. Brunswick County is growing, and projects will be funded. This Project is upper tier to be done. Has softball/baseball fields, soccer, football and Cedar Grove Middle School utilizes for school sports. Kris asked if it had a playground. Aaron said no playground, but in CIP requesting. New upgrades would be ball fields, concession, dog park, bocce, shuffleboard, and fishing at ponds.

Navassa Park is number 6. County owns 5 acres and the Town of Navassa 3. Received final plans for restroom/concession facility. Hope to have in place the end of February. May build new press boxes and dugouts. The fencing is good.

Smithville Park Phase 2 is at number 7. Phase 1 was completed in April, 2019. Did grant with Trillium to have an ADA playground. Look to upgrade turf and add another basketball goal.

Mike said there is enough space to put basketball court by playground.

Aaron said slowly piecing together. Next upgrade is a restroom facility at front of Park. BOC approved Smith Carolina contract for this facility on 1/21/20 and hope to have it done by June or July.

Brunswick Waterway Park is number 8. Property was purchased for 3.5 million and prior to Aaron's time. Ninety Five percent of the ABC stone has been put in. Probably will run out of funds for this project. Original cost was \$18 and now is \$27 per ton. Beautiful piece of property located on 35 acres where you have a few of the Holden Beach Bridge.

Brunswick Nature Park is number 9. Located on 911 acres. Highly used Park with kayak launch, picnic shelter, hiking and biking trails. Restroom was solar power and due to clean water easement and agreement with Coastal Land Trust we could not cut trees. When restrooms had no sunshine there were issues. Had to get commercial power for \$45,000. Initial phase is complete. Looking to add more passive features, parking and disc golf.

Ocean Isle Beach Park Phase 3 came in at number 10. Have additional property to do nature trails and soccer fields. Have bigger needs at other Parks currently.

Tournament Sports Complex came in at number 11. Have property on Highway 211 where Coastal Events Center was previously to be built. Easy access in and out of this property. Looking to possibly bring the Fair back. May not have Sports Complex based on all the facilities throughout the County.

Greenway Master Plan is at 12. Working with Planning to do a Greenway Master Plan. Kris asked if area is getting paved and adding bike trails can you coordinate with them on that.

Aaron said DOT is willing to work on a plan and give funding.

Sunset Harbor Blue Way Trail came in at number 13. Have two parcels donated for recreational use and possible kayak launch. After most storms can't get boat in due to so much sediment being washed in. Boat ramp belongs to Wildlife.

Dutchman Creek Park is number 14. Passive gorgeous Park that is one of the nicest on the water. Has a beach atmosphere and sailboats everywhere. Playground overlooking the water. Lease property from Duke Energy. Cape Fear Yacht Club has approached County to build a facility to store sailboats. CFYC wants it to be exclusive to them and not open to the public. If the County builds it, the facility will be open for shared usage.

Teagan stated that the Sea Biscuit Wildlife would probably be interested in educational classes there.

Mike asked if a kayak launch would be added. Aaron stated there had been talk about it, but not at this time. Plans are to add a new ADA playground.

Aquatics Feasibility Study is at number 15. This study would show what areas need indoor space. BCC is only indoor space. The Winds at OIB offered space before but has now been sold and new owners will no longer allow outside usage. Have had programs at BCC, but once programs are up and running, we turn them over to BCC to run. We are County, but the schools are State.

Greenway System Phase 1 came in at number 16. This is 10 miles from BNP. Would have to get easements from private land owners.

Aquatics Facility South and West came in at number 17 and 18. Probably need one in each area, but at time of study the South and West area were the only ones stated.

Greenway System Phase 2 came in at number 19.

Aaron stated that Waccamaw Park and Town Creek Park were not included in the ranking based on they were done in their entirety and not phased.

Kris asked if we had a projected timeframe of these tasks being done. Aaron said waiting on the new 10 Year Master Comprehensive Plan to let it address and indicate the needs. The cost indicated currently will change and be much higher when Plan is done.

Kris made a motion to approve the 2020 Strategic Planning Update as submitted and Teagan seconded. Motion passed 3 to 0.

VI. Director's Report

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Aaron stated this was covered in ranking update.

- **Update on Ocean Isle Beach Park Project**

Aaron stated this was covered in ranking update.

- **Update on Brunswick Waterway Park**

Aaron stated this was covered in ranking update.

- **Youth Basketball Program**

Meeting with school system to work on future agreement. Basketball is one of P&R's top programs with 545 participants. Getting coaches is hard and ones that can pass the background checks.

Kris stated that retirees have history of coaching and could get them to mentor coaches. Mike stated that high school coaches will do that.

Aaron said we have reached out, but our background check policy is strict and that everyone was young at some time and may have done things.

Teagan asked if people know how to go about volunteering and is it on our website and social media.

Teagan said a lot of retirees do not have social media. She assists with BSRI and can promote people volunteering.

- **Navassa Park Concession Stand and Shelter**

Will have crane company out to look at facility. Should have contractor do electrical and plumbing. Building to be delivered by 18-wheeler. May have to have Duke Energy take down power lines to get the building put in place.

- **10 Year Master Comprehensive Plan / Land Use**
Have named four groups. Looking at February 20/21 or week after to do presentation to pick a firm. Once selected will hold public meetings. Advisory Board will be involved and kept in the loop.
- **Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members**
Teagan asked if we were aware of a hole in the playground at Smithville Park. Aaron indicated he had reached out to the vendor and it is being addressed. Aaron stated OIB Park will need work done on tennis courts. Got involved on the back side and received quotes for resurfacing. Waiting to have funds to do.

VII. Adjourn Meeting

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

VIII. Meeting Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon and Laura Botto

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: None

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020