

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
August 21, 2018

I. Call to Order

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

II. Invocation

- Mike Sullivan gave the Invocation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2018 Meeting

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

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

- Joseph Sapps was present to discuss a Park being constructed at Marlowtown near Calabash. Explained they have 2 ½ acres that was donated to them and want a Park done to help keep the kids off the streets. Indicated that Aaron has looked at the location. They have done fundraisers, but only raised \$600 or so dollars. They are a nonprofit group and need help.

Mike A. asked where is Marlowtown exactly. Aaron stated you go past the Dollar General at Highway 57 and it is behind Crow Creek Golf Course. Mike A. said this would be in his District and he thinks we need more parks and it is a good idea to him.

Mike A. asked who property is titled to and Mr. Sapps stated Marlowtown Association. Aaron said they have offered the property to the County, but the County has declined. Mike A. asked what the closest park to this area is. Calabash is closest with Ocean Isle Beach Park being next.

Aaron stated that next official planning would be the 2019 Comprehensive Master Plan. Explained that this process will indicate what is needed long term.

Mike A. suggested that they attend the public meetings to be a voice.

Mike S. said it was a good idea and asked what the population of that area was. Aaron stated that the Master Plan would assist with all that information.

- George Briggs from Ocean Ridge Plantation was present to ask questions regarding Ocean Isle Beach Park. Began by stating he was a volunteer for the community who is keeping tabs on the progress of Ocean Isle Beach Park and has concerns about the proximity of it to ORP. He stated his issues of concern were safety, noise and lighting. He is pleasantly surprised how short the lights are but that they are visible based on tree removal. Requested that Aaron provide a written guidance to ORP on what to expect and circumstances of how the lights will be. Mr. Briggs said the lights were on when the park was closed and wants to know how it will be in the Spring/Summer, Fall/Winter and when tournaments are going on.

Mike A. asked if Mr. Briggs was saying he wanted something written and Mr. Briggs said yes.

Aaron said the existing lights are on the old system and come on and off based on the times set. They currently come on at dark and off when the park closes. This past week a main water break caused closure of the park which is why the lights were on and the park actually closed during normal hours. Looking at push buttons for the soccer field and tennis courts.

Mr. Symanski asked if when on push button if someone pushed it over and over would it keep adding 45 minutes to initial time. Aaron said one push would initiate the 45 minutes and if pushed again a few minutes later it would not add additional time. When it is close to the 45 minutes ending the system would let you know then to go back and push it to have it start a new 45 minutes. Aaron said the push button is in the quote for the tennis and pickleball courts, as well as the multipurpose field.

Mr. Symanski asked if tournaments go on can Aaron add that their time runs over in the written form. Aaron said local leagues can run over.

Mr. Symanski said that Cedar Grove and Lockwood Folly fields are nice. Senior Leagues seem to be saying they will be playing at Ocean Isle Beach Park once those ball fields open.

V. Commission Business Session

• Coastal Land Trust

Camilla Herlevich, Executive Director of the Coastal Land Trust was present to discuss saving Reaves Chapel. Stated that they had purchased Brunswick Nature Park for 2 million and donated it to the County. Introduced Al Beatty, President of Cedar Hill/West Bank Heritage Foundation. Mr. Beatty said they had partnered with Coastal Land Trust to save Reaves Chapel. Said it was one of the oldest AME Churches that had been abandoned. About 1100 square feet with cemetery. Church has stained glass windows and church pews. Have spoken to historic foundation. Coastal Land Trust has placed a tarp over it to keep any additional water damage from occurring. Coastal Land Trust has funds to purchase property. Plans are to buy and repair. Building is electrical and structurally sound. Would like to historically restore. Ms. Herlevich explained that Coastal Land Trust is not in the business of owning and managing. Would like for the County to envision a role in owning until the State is interested in buying it. Would like the County to give advice. Coastal Land Trust feels they can find the money to repair and restore but can't manage forever. It is .67 acres with cemetery and trying to acquire 5 acres behind.

Mike A. asked how close is the Chapel to our Parks. Aaron said two miles.

Mike S. asked if there is anything in area already doing this. Said utility company might be able to help. Contact BEMC Heather Holbrook. BEMC helps organizations in Brunswick County.

Will be setting up a Go Fund Me page once ownership has been taken.

Aaron said we have two sights, Waccamaw Community Building and Leland 5th District Community Building which are old schools. Not classified as historical but are sites that community feels should stay and not be torn down. At one time looked to tear down Waccamaw, but said it was historical and stayed.

Mike A. said we are short staffed and recommended that County look into it and discuss with full Board at next meeting. Asked Ms. Herlevich and Mr. Beatty to come back on 9/18/18 when we have all 5 Board Members to look at and see. Mike A. asked Aaron to put on Agenda for 9/18/18.

• Nomination Committee Recommendation and Election of Officers

Mike A. stated election of officers was deferred last month and he is asking that it be deferred one more time when all the Board Members are here.

VI. Director's Report

• Update on Smithville Park Project

Meeting on 7/27/18 to meet with turf guys to go over punch list. Have substantial completion on ballfields. Hope to open ballfields the middle of September. Start Phase 2 in

house to include multipurpose fields and batting cages. Cost around \$300,000. Lighting to be done outside of this. Staff will be onsite next week to start bulldozing.

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

Conference call last Thursday. Due to rain thought they would be behind but still moving dirt good. Good drainage system that is draining well. Initial infrastructure going into place. Conduit, press box foundation, Musco lighting falling into place. Had some undesirable soil but had enough dirt onsite to use. Had to use contingency funds to do walking trails. Have a progress meeting next week.

- **Update on Brunswick Waterway Park**

At end of design. Submitted permits for just about everything. Talking with zoning on the 3 parcels. Two front parcels are commercial, and one back is residential. Get easement or rezone to all one zone to access park.

Mike A. asked if the two parcels are not impacting the park would the County ever sale them. Aaron said we would know next month if we get Phase 3 funding. Hope to open in November 2019.

- **Leland Park Playground**

Applied for grant for playground in the amount of \$32,000 and have \$120,000 in CIP to renovate.

- **Navassa Park Concession Stand**

Have \$245,000 to build new restroom and concession stand. Demolished existing facility in February. Will be finalizing next couple of months.

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

Aaron asked Dorothy Warren, new Board Member to tell a little about herself. Stated she was a native, teacher at Waccamaw School for past 4 years. Prior to that worked 10 years at Corning. Raising 4 children.

Mike A. said he went to OIB Park and it was doing well despite the rain. Went to Holden Beach Concert and they did a fundraiser for the Boy Scouts. Said OIB does it for Food Bank. Good to see that the concerts do something to give back to the community.

VII. Adjourn Meeting

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

VIII. Meeting Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mike Sullivan, Mike Allocco and Dorothy Warren

Board Members Absent: Laura Botto and Dale Rabon

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: Joseph Sapps, Camilla Herlevich, Al Beatty, George Briggs, Ted Symanski

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, September 18, 2018