

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
February 20, 2018

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 9, 2018 Meeting

- **Mike Allocco asked for correction on Minutes from the word “activities” to “facilities”. The Minutes were approved 4-0 with this correction. Mike Sullivan made a motion to accept the Minutes as approved with this correction and Mike Allocco seconded.**

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

- Jim and Michelle Cochran addressed the Board regarding the social and economic benefits of having a skatepark at one of the County Parks. Jim explained they moved to the area 7 years ago from California. Visited a skatepark at Ogden and was deeply inspired by the family involvement. Passed out a handout and highlighted over the key points. Stated that a skatepark is a community asset, deters youth crime, is a common ground and increases tourism.
Mike A. asked if there was an official organization for the skatepark? Jim stated one was forming. He has spoken with a group in Wilmington regarding the one at Ogden and they want to get with him. Laura asked if a formal request has been done before for a skatepark or if it is in the Master Plan? Aaron stated there has been some interest from time to time. We will be doing a Comprehensive Master Plan the following year and will see what the demands are. Mike S. thanked the Cochran’s for coming and said there is a skatepark at Oak Island. Jim asked when is Master Plan meeting. Aaron responded not sure but for him to get his organization together to come out and support it. Laura said to have them attend the public meetings at the time they are held to request the skatepark.
- Ted Symanski and George Briggs from Ocean Ridge Plantation were present to ask questions regarding Ocean Isle Beach Park Phase 2. Ms. Symanski asked if the bid award was online. Aaron said it is on the Board of Commissioners website under the 2/5/18 packet where he requested approval. Aaron stated that Carmichael out of Southport was awarded the bid. Mr. Briggs went over the history of the budget for the project stating what the Commissioners approved for the overall total project (5.85 million) and the actual cost of project could not exceed 4.5 million. Aaron stated that bid amount was 4.477 and that the construction contingency was reduced to compensate for the overage of \$74,000 with alternates. LED lights to be done by Musco and BEMC and impact fees are all outside expenses. Mr. Symanski asked about the schedule. Aaron indicated he is waiting on the approved contract then will set up kickoff meeting to do notice to proceed.

- Marty Mentzer was present to also support a skate park within the County Parks. Stated she was a retired teacher of 30 years in the physical education department. She represented the Brunswick Youth Council, which is a non-profit geared to the children and families of Brunswick County. Stated they wanted to work with the skate park. Gave out a handout on the Youth Council. She has helped with surf camps and other sports like soccer, skating and lacrosse. Biggest issue is youth not having things to do. Need free things. Kids need transportation to get to things. Stated organization has just formed. Asked about having basketball goals in neighborhoods. Steve Corbett of St. James is the Director for the organization.

V. Commission Business Session

- **Budget Preparation FY 18-19**

Aaron explained that last year he looked at a plan to allow the Advisory Board to attend State Conference. This year it will be held in Winston Salem, NC on October 24-26, 2018. Indicated he needed to know who wanted to go to propose in his budget. Mike A., Laura and Mike S. all stated they would like to attend.

VI. Director's Report

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Project is 92% complete. Putting up poles for lights on 2/22. Working on asphalt and concrete around tennis courts, walking trails and press box building. Have until 4/2/18. Should meet deadline. Two fields will be playable, but one field will not be ready in time for ball season due to sprigging. Plan to use Bill Smith Park one more year for Dixie Youth to allow field time to be ready. Project has gone well. ECC has been good to work with. Mike S. said park looks good and that BEMC is getting ready to do the lights. Mike S. said he is excited about OIB Park Phase 2 being next.

- **Update on Ocean Isle Beach Park**

Taking copies of contract to legal to review. Hope to have meeting next week and then kickoff meeting to do notice to proceed. Carmichael out of Southport received the bid and will be working with a lot of the same vendors that have been used as part of the Smithville Park Project. Mike A. asked how long would project take. Aaron said contract is for 360 days.

- **Update on Intracoastal Waterway Park**

Going forward park will be called Brunswick Waterway Park. McGill is working on putting together a schematic design for Phase 1 and 2 of the Grant.

VII. Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

Dale said he spent time at NWP watching soccer and basketball and that people are using the park. A lot of families are at the playground and picnic shelter. Wants a playground at Leland Park. Aaron said he met with a playground representative about Leland Park and is asking for it in new budget.

Mike A. said he had a chance meeting with Jim Fish of BSRI about senior housing in Sunset Beach. Asked where does our senior programs cross over with that. Jim is wanting senior housing in Ocean Isle Beach.

Mike S. stated he had several conversations and good feedback from the public. Spoke with numerous individuals who love the trails at BNP and the ease of getting to the

kayak launch. Had a compliment on TCP and the wonderful walking trail. Individual told him they enjoy Dutchman Creek, but the jungle gym needed some attention. People are excited about Smithville Park renovations and the entrance changing. New playground and shelter are used all the time.

Laura said that senior games registration is going on now and that the opening ceremonies is 4/4/18 at Town Creek Park.

Dale said the Sharks want a Brunswick County night and told them to get with Aaron. Mike S. asked when are Dixie sign ups. Aaron said now through March.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting

Mike S. made a motion to adjourn meeting and Dale seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

IX. Meeting Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mike Sullivan, Dale Rabon, Mike Allocco and Laura Botto

Board Members Absent: Leander Mosley

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: Jim and Michelle Cochran, Ted Symanski, George Briggs and Marty Menzer

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, March 20, 2018