

MINUTES
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
January 24, 2017

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

- Dale Rabon gave Invocation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 20, 2016 Meeting

- Mrs. Botto asked to make a small change to minutes.
- **The Minutes were approved 4-0. Mike Allocco made motion to accept the minutes with the change Mrs. Botto requested. Dale Rabon Seconded**

IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard

Ted Symanski, citizen of Ocean Ridge Plantation.

Ted is the liaison for the Ocean Ridge Plantation residents and has questions about the phase 2 for the Ocean Isle Beach Park. Mr. Symanski expressed to Aaron about the clearing of the trees for the new phase. Ted was expressing concern of the trees being cut down and making the park visible from the Ocean Ridge residence side. Aaron reassured Mr. Symanski that was necessary for the data to be gather for the surveying crew and there should not be any more trees coming down. Mr. Symanski had concerns about the pickleball courts being value engineered, Aaron stated that the plans would include the six pickleball courts. Mr. Symanski had questions as well about the new ball field and would there be nets place behind the field to keep the golf balls from going onto the golf course, will Parks and Recreation staff be working with the maintenance crew of Ocean Ridge Plantation golf course to help with this. Aaron stated at this time there is nothing planned.

Trina Crawford, Citizen of Southport

Citizen had interest in possible bring a driving range to the parks and the Frisbee golf to be added to parks as well. Aaron stated that he can put together information for the advisory board to take a look at. Aaron stated there hadn't been any concern for the driving range in this area.

Aaron stated the Frisbee golf has been in discussion with Mr. York to put an 18 holes' course at Brunswick Nature Park. The trouble that Mr. York is experiencing is getting people to come together to start and association to be able to becoming a 501c3 (non-profit) and is having a hard time putting it all together on his own.

The citizen had concerns about the walking trail being put at Smithville Park and would it contain shaded and sunny areas like Town Creek Park, she was reassured by Aaron that yes it would be a combination.

V. Commission Business Session

- **Brunswick County Greenway, Bikeway and Paddle Trail Network, Kirstie Dixon, Planning Manager**

Kirstie Dixon with the Planning Department presented Power Points on Greenway, Bikeway, & Paddle Trail Plan. The Planning department began this project in April 2015 with no funding. She visited all the Towns and municipalities with this idea and received \$30,000 to fund the project. She reached out to the Stakeholders and large land owners and special interest groups. There were 15 towns who came to the open house and provided information, 12 of the towns participated financially. The next step will be to take the plan to the Brunswick County Planning Board in February. Kirstie is hoping present the information to the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners in March. Meanwhile the Planning Department will be holding an open house on January 30, 2017 in Building N from 4pm to 8pm. Then the planning department will look for a town endorsement. Mike Allocco asked for the information so he could further look at it, Aaron stated he would forward the information to him. Kirsten stated the planning department is looking for endorsement so when the department goes to the Brunswick County Planning Board, they will know we have spoken with Parks and Recreation, and they have given approval. Mike Allocco motion for the endorsement, Dale Rabon second the motion, with all in favor.

- **County Parks Batting Cages-Lights**

Aaron stated that over the past 6 months there has been safety concerns about the batting cages not having lights. Cedar Grove Park has 1 batting cage with no lights, Leland Park has 2 batting cages with lights, Lockwood Folly Park has 1 batting cage with lights, Northwest Park has 1 batting cage with lights, Shallotte Park has 3 batting cages with 2 cages having lights and 1 with no lights, Waccamaw Park has 4 batting cages with 1 cage with light and 3 cages with no lights, Town Creek Park has 2 batting cages with no lights. Smithville Park has no batting cages with the initial first phase because of funding. Dale asked if there were any ways to do this project in house, Aaron did state that it is the most feasible. Laura asked could we use capital funding, Aaron stated that we possible could, it would be hard when you start moving money from project to project. Laura asked Aaron, was he looking to redo all batting cages completely or just add lights to the cages that need them. Aaron stated that he would like to just add lights to the cages that need them. Aaron wanted to bring this concern to the board for their opinions so Parks and Recreation could start putting things together.

VI. Director's Report

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Aaron stated that the pre-bid meeting and went over project and what Parks and Recreation expect and answered questions. Seven bidders came to bid on January 12, 2017 with the lowest bid coming in around \$4.7 Million which was \$1 Million and some over the budget. Aaron received the Certified Bid Letter from Alfred and Bensch company today with plans going further to discuss with managers and Commissioners.

- **Update on Waccamaw Park Project**

Work on maintenance building is almost complete, waiting for ATMC to come in and pull fiber for the internet service at this location. The Frisbee golf course with 9 holes is doing really great at this location.

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

On December 21, 2016 there was a kick off meeting for the project. This meeting included anyone who will have involvement with the new phase being added to the Ocean Isle Beach Park. Aaron has been working with the consultant today, they discussed the pickleball courts, instead of having 6 courts all together there would be 3 courts and another 3 courts staggered to have a seating area in the middle walking isle. Mike Allocco attended the kick off meeting on December 21st and stated what a wonderful meeting it was and to be part of that process was very helpful to him and understanding the steps.

- **Update on Youth Basketball**

Youth Basketball began 2 weeks ago; the games are being held every Saturday at the 4 middle schools in the county. The program is going well. Aaron stated that Parks and Recreation have had a few complaints, mostly the smoking outside of the gyms.

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

Laura had questions about the conference that will be held September 11-13 in Greensboro, NC or September 26-28 in New Orleans, LA. Laura can go to the New Orleans conference and Mike stated either one will work for him. Dale decided that the New Orleans date will work better for him at this moment. Danny said either date would work for him.

- **Adjourn Meeting**

Mike made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Dale Rabon. The meeting was adjourned.

- **Meeting Roll Call**

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

Board Members Absent: Leander Mosley

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Penny King

Citizens of Interest: Ted Symanski and Trina Crawford

Next Scheduled Meeting: February 21, 2017