

**MINUTES  
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
June 21, 2016**

**I. Call to Order**

- Howard Benton called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in Building M, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**II. Invocation**

- Howard Benton gave the invocation.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2016 Meeting**

- **The Minutes were approved 3-0. Laura Botto made a motion to accept the Minutes as approved and Leander Mosley seconded.**

**IV. Citizens wishing to be heard**

- Mike Allocco introduced himself as a new member to the Advisory Board starting July, 2016. Stated that he has been coming to OIB since 1985 and built a home in 1995. He has been living here full time for the last 8 years. Wanted to attend tonight to introduce himself and see how the meetings were.

**V. Commission Business Session**

- **Cape Fear Regional Bike Plan Presentation (Kirstie Dixon)**

Kirstie Dixon passed out a paper version of the power point and proceeded to go over. NCDOT and Cape Fear Council of Governments have come together to do a bike plan. Kirstie is on the committee representing Brunswick County. Alta Planning has been hired to do the plan and design. Guiding concepts for bicycle planning are recreation, transportation, conservation, healthy living, community building, economic vitality, connectivity and safety. Bicycling and Economic Development want people in community to go and get information. Highway 179 is looking to expand roads when DOT repaves. DOT only covers the paving. Funding needs to be provided for the widening. Key elements of the project are the public and stakeholder engagement. Have a survey for the public to take so that input is received. Survey is available till 6/30/16. Project is on social media, information cards and flyer. Need help spreading the word. Hope to have final draft completed in one year.

Kirstie is also on the Blueway/Greenway Committee and stated that they are in the drafting stages and hope to have a draft to take to the Commissioners in a few months.

**VI. Duke Energy Karen Williams (Sand Volleyball Courts Smithville Park )**

- Karen Williams spoke in regards to sand volleyball courts at Smithville Park. Stated that over 1000 employees at Duke Energy play softball at Smithville and would like to have sand volleyball courts. Duke Energy is willing to pay for this amenity. They have engineers to do courts. Aaron indicated that the main issue was where to place the courts. Aaron stated that the plan for Smithville has already been done and no space has been allocated for sand volleyball courts. Phase I is already at 100% design and set

to go out to bid in July, then start construction August, 2016. Phase 2 & 3 is set to be done together in 2018 if there are funds. Aaron stated that he would look into a location, but wasn't certain we would be able to accommodate the request. Karen asked how people were informed about being able to provide public input for Smithville. She stated she missed the radar for that and at least wanted to be prepared for any future opportunities. Aaron explained that a survey was done and sent out through media, social links, County website, etc. Aaron suggested Dutchman Creek as another site to place the courts, but Karen said Duke Energy prefers Smithville.

## **VII. Director's Report**

- **Recommendation and Nominating of Advisory Board Officers**

Aaron explained that Howard Benton's term was up and would not be renewing. Mike Allocco has been appointed by the Commissioners to take Howards place. At this time, recommendations need to be made for chair and vice chair. Leander recommended Laura for Chair and Laura recommended Leander for Vice-Chair. Vote was 3 to 0 to accept these recommendations.

- **Update on Town Creek Park Project**

Mediation with AO Hardee is still going on. Lights are fixed in Community Building. Pickle ball is in and scoreboards and sound system is up. Flag pole is up and irrigation system is not keeping primed. Aaron emailed AO Hardee on irrigation. On 6/25/16 Dixie Youth Minors/Majors Tournament and on 7/1/16 Dixie Softball Tournament begins. Stress fractures on Community Building are good. We have a 5 year warranty with AO Hardee and a 3 year irrigation warranty.

- **Update on Waccamaw Park Project**

Entrance is paved and horseshow walking trail is in. 7/1/16 is start of Dixie Softball Tournament. WBHS Softball is running tournament. It will have teams for Debs, Belles, Ponytails, Angels and Traditional. Maintenance Building is being done by Carolina Craftsman. Basketball and tennis is still a problem with contractor. Contractor said soil was undesirable. Was to be a turnkey job and now wants \$12,000 more to complete job. Contractor has moved offsite and has been informed to either finish contract at original price or leave site and we will go to next bidder.

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

Approval given on 100% plan. Press boxes were not included in original plan, but Commissioners want press boxes. Hope to send out to bid by 7/1/16 and start construction by 8/1/16. Cost are going up per the Consultant and not sure where bids will come in at. 4.5 million is what was approved for the project. Dixie Boys Tournament will be 7/8-7/13/16.

- **Update on Ocean Isle Beach Park**

Two million has been allocated for Phase 2. Will know after audit in October what funds are available. Hope to move forward with plans to do a 30-60-90 plan.

- **2017 Budget**

Budget was approved 6/20/16. P&R received most of what was requested. Was 60,000 over revenue for 2016. Budget is 1.4 million total.

**VIII. Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members**

Howard asked Aaron if he would like to have the Maintenance Staff back. Aaron stated he was fine either way.

Aaron recognized Howard from a personal stand point and thanked him for his service. Stated he had great respect for Howard and that he had been part of the Advisory Board for 27 years.

Howard said he enjoyed what he had done and that he was here for the kids. Said it is all about the kids and to remember going forward what we are here for. It is for the kids, our future.

Laura stated she has enjoyed working with Howard and that she was pleased the Commissioners passed the no smoking policy.

Aaron stated we have had good feedback on no smoking policy and only a few negative comments. Policy will be implemented by signage which has come in and being put up ASAP.

Leander stated that Howard's knowledge has always impressed him and that he will be missed.

Howard said BCP&R is great and better than most and equal to the best. When you keep kids on ball fields you keep them out of trouble. Howard said to call him if you need him.

**IX. Adjourn Meeting**

Laura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Leander. The meeting was adjourned.

**X. Meeting Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Howard Benton, Leander Mosley and Laura Botto

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon and Erik Bocook

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins and Tanya Jackson

Planning Department: Kirstie Dixon

Citizens of Interest: Ted Symanski (provided no comments), Karen Williams, Mike Allocco

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, July 19, 2016