

**MINUTES**  
**BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**September 19, 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**

- Mike Allocco gave the invocation.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2017 Meeting**

- **The Minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.**

**IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard**

Ted Symanski from Ocean Ridge Plantation was present to inquire on the bid process and check on the status of the pickle ball courts. Aaron indicated that there are plans to still have 6 pickle ball courts and hope to send out bids in November.

**V. Commission Business Session**

- **Steve Goodwin, Special Populations Coordinator**

- Aaron informed the Advisory Board that this month the Staff Member presenting was Steve Goodwin, Special Populations Coordinator.

Steve began by introducing himself and then passed out a document to the Advisory Board for them to follow along with him on his job responsibilities.

Steve began by stating he was at UNCW for a year prior to coming to work for the County. In our Department, he wears two titles. Coordinator for BCP&R and Local Coordinator for Brunswick County. The Special Populations Division deals with Exceptional Children. Steve works with Brunswick County Schools regarding ages pre-k through high school. Some of the programs offered are bowling, which is a 5-week program offered at Planet Fun. This program has been offered there the past 9 years. Based on the size of the County, there is not a lot of participation from the Leland area because it is so far from Shallotte. In the past, Thunder Alley was an option for that area, but it has gone out of business. Currently trying to coordinate something with Cardinal Lanes. New this year is a tennis program being offered with volunteers from St. James Plantation. A few of the therapeutic programs offered are horseback riding and music. These type programs allow the EC Children to be stimulated. Mike asked if kids live at home or what age are they. Steve stated yes, but that he did have adult age participation that lived in adult group homes. Currently we have 4 adult homes in the County that house normally 8 adults per home. Laura asked if Steve's budget pays for these items. Steve stated yes, but could use more funding. Aquatics was not listed on his handout but said he partners with Dinah Gore Fitness to use their pool and that it was great for mobility.

The BIP Program is a day program for adults funded through BCC. Currently have 155 adults that participate. They do numerous things such as pier fishing. Looking at adding surf fishing this Fall.

Buddy Ball is a 2-week baseball program for kids of all ages to experience baseball. Golf is a 4-week program that is ran at The First Tee.

Spring Games are once a year where track and field are offered. In the past, there have been over 475 participants in addition to almost 500 volunteers. Also offer basketball, bocce, cycling, soccer and volleyball. Basketball is normally 5 on 5 teams with soccer being helped by WBHS Soccer teams. Laura asked how did Steve get volunteers. Steve said they can always use volunteers. A Class A volunteer goes through background checks to be able to coach. A day volunteer is someone that comes out for a day event or helps with fundraisers. All you need is a big heart and willingness to volunteer. Aaron stated that Steve is a valued employee. Steve stated that they had received the distinguished honor award for District in 2008, 2011 and 2015. They had applied those 3 times and won all 3.

## **VI. Director's Report**

- **Update on Smithville Park Project**

All going well. Park Project is 60 to 70% complete. Currently putting in roads and Musco lighting is in. No fence yet, but courts are being paved. If contractor stays at this pace should be finished on time or even sooner.

- **Update on Ocean Isle Beach Park**

Permits are coming in. Once permits approved will start putting together the bid package. Hope to have all by October and November to send out to bid. Mike said Michael Norton said moving along. Target date to release for bid is beginning of November. Bids will be open for 30 days. Should be on track. Then certify bids within 2 to 3 weeks. Pickleball courts have had no change. Still will have 6 courts.

- **Update on Holden Beach Park**

Received RFQ on 9/8 and 9/9/17. Received a total of 8. Going through review to qualify. RFP to go out end of next week to hire design team.

- **Northwest Park**

Finished resurfacing courts. Did all 4 tennis courts and now have 4 pickle ball courts.

- **Smart Start Free Little Libraries**

Placing Free Little Libraries at Shallotte Park and LWF Park. Looking to add to more parks. Wanting to do OIB Park next.

## **VII. Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members**

Laura stated she will be attending the Senior Games in Raleigh. Leaving 9/21/17 to go. Over 86 participants from County going. Probably had over 270 participants in the games.

Mike stated he spent time working on his assignment regarding specific departments for P&R. He has spoken with Melinda and Khrystye to start peeling back the layers. Stated it is confusing about who runs what. Said it seems certain people do concerts and that BSRI does certain things. Indicated OIB POA seems to fund a lot of concerts at OIB, whereas those held at Sunset Beach are less and ran by the Merchants Association. Said there are so many moving parts. Dixie Youth is run by someone other than P&R yet we run Dixie Boys. Asked what is the solution.

Aaron said municipalities usually do the concerts not the County. County applies for a grant for the concerts and splits the funds between the towns. Holden Beach has an

amphitheater and holds their concerts there. Some towns do concerts only and some do movies and concerts.

Mike said people don't understand all the moving parts. Stated BSRI is running programs that overlap with some of ours, but that we don't do overnight trips. Aaron replied that we are working with BSRI to have a better partnership. BSRI runs the Senior Centers. They use some of our facilities to run their programs. BSRI owns and operates Stone Chimney, Calabash, BSL, Shallotte, Leland and Shallotte.

Aaron stated that contracted programs are a lot and if someone approaches us about running a program, usually we will partner. Said pickle ball was originally set up by us to run out of BCC, but BCC decided they wanted to charge for the program, so we ended up turning the program over to them because we didn't want to charge for the clinic.

Laura asked how we pay on contracted programs. Aaron said we have agreements set up regarding who receives what percentage. It is based on what each party offers.

Mike stated we are taking away the incentive to motivate reason to generate revenue.

Aaron said County looks at taxes to support our programs. We keep fees low to enable everyone to participate. Aaron said we can't accommodate large tournaments, etc. The hotels are going to fill up in the summer regardless and there is no incentive for the hotels to give us discounts.

**VIII. Adjourn Meeting**

Laura stated meeting was adjourned. No motion to be made since no quorum.

**IX. Meeting Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Mike Allocco and Laura Botto

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon, Danny Sellers and Leander Mosley

Staff Members Present: Aaron Perkins, Steve Goodwin and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: Ted Symanski

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, October 17, 2017