

**MINUTES**  
**BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**September 20, 2016**

**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 August 16, 2016 Meeting**

- **The Minutes were approved 3-0. Danny Sellers made a motion to accept the Minutes as approved and Mike Allocco seconded. Dale Rabon arrived to the meeting after approval of the Minutes.**

**IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard**

- **Bobby Child, President of Leland Youth Baseball**

Mr. Child stated that he knows Dale Rabon and Dale keeps him informed in regards to the Leland area. Appreciates what the County does allowing them usage of a beautiful Park in Leland with two fields. Stated Nathan Swain, Park Supervisor for Leland Park does a great job keeping up Park and Dixie Youth truly appreciates it. Mr. Child informed the Advisory Board that he attended tonight's meeting to discuss several items. First, the Dixie Youth would like to have approval to use fields for the 12-year-old tournament the third week in July 2017. Usage would be starting that Friday and running through the following Saturday. In addition, they would request usage of the Leland Senior Community Building for umpires to change and cool off. Mr. Child asked that the Advisory Board support having the tournament practices at the two fields (Fields 4 & 5) in Northwest Park. Games would be at Leland Park. Mr. Child informed the Advisory Board that this year the 8-year old's won District and the State Tournament and went on to finish 6<sup>th</sup> in the World Series. The 10-year old's won District and went to State. The 12-year old's won District and went to State. Mike asked what Park to be used and what were needs from P&R Staff. Mr. Child stated they were requesting usage of fields and assistance of P&R Staff as in past. Aaron said that the Dixie Youth is under the Local League Agreement.

Mr. Child also inquired about the new Leland Senior Building being built. Indicated the old building would then be vacant and requested that Dixie Youth be allowed to lease the old Leland Senior Community Building. Currently, Dixie Youth leases the small white building, close to Leland Park. It belongs to the County and their current lease is up 2045. Dixie Youth made improvements to the small white building to make it 100% better. Mr. Child asked that the County provide same type of lease as white building and Dixie Youth will improve building and keep it up and operate it. Aaron stated that as of now the County said the building is not up to code and plans are not to renovate. Mike asked if the lease would pass on issues to lessees? Aaron said the building needs new HVAC and etc. Mr. Child said he was aware of condition of building. Dale said, Dixie Youth could give back to the community and they would make good use of the building. Mr. Child asked, what is the next step. Aaron replied that he would put together something for next meeting to have the Advisory Board give recommendation to BOC.

- **Carol Harpster, USAPA (Pickleball) Ambassador for Southern Brunswick County and Rick Harpster, NMB Paddle Director.**

Ms. Harpster represents 200 Pickleball players from Calabash to Shallotte. She looks forward to new courts at Ocean Isle Beach Park because normally they have to use tennis courts for pickleball. Mr. Harpster passed out pamphlets to Aaron and Mike. Mr. Harpster would like to have Senior Games and tournaments at OIB Park. Pamphlets have detail on designs and features they would like to have on pickleball courts. Mr. Harpster asked if this information could be passed to the company doing the courts. Laura said she appreciated the input and once bids go out the County is limited to funds. Mr. Harpster stated he would like to see pickleball courts be more of a gathering place with shading and picnic shelters. Laura asked did he itemize priorities on request and Mr. Harpster stated it is all in order of priorities. Mike said last plan he saw had six pickleball courts for OIB Park and asked how do you convert tennis courts to pickleball courts. Aaron stated it is better to keep tennis courts and build pickleball courts. It's not the same when you collide them together and not the best scenario. Aaron said that Smithville Park will have 4 dedicated pickleball courts. Mike asked about tournaments with local and outside organizations/people. Mr. Harpster said he would like to have indoor facilities with BCC to co-sponsor. Stated at NMB they run tournaments with about 125 people, guaranteed to bring in people to the community and bring money. It is open to anyone. Aaron indicated that BCP&R currently has two pickleball courts at Town Creek, one at Shallotte, will be four at Smithville Park and projecting six at Ocean Isle Beach Park. Waccamaw Park is set to have them as well.

#### **V. Commission Business Session**

- **Park Tours**

Aaron stated to the Advisory Board it would take two days to complete tour of Parks. Aaron suggested the week of October 10<sup>th</sup> thru October 14<sup>th</sup> and to choose dates. October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> were narrowed down. Board Members are to contact Aaron and confirm. Mike requested a copy of the Strategic Plan and Laura stated Danny should receive one as well.

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

- **Update on Waccamaw Park Project**

Maintenance building is going up and the slab has been poured. Construction should start this week. Tennis and basketball courts are being finished after previous contractor wanted more money to complete the job.

- **Update on Smithville Park**

Aaron stated we are at 100% design. Still waiting on DOT and Storm Water permits to move forward. Going to bid soon, then 30 days to review.

- **Update on Ocean Isle Beach**

Aaron stated that we are moving forward with Benesch to put contract in place. Will know at next BOC meeting if approval of 374,300 to do contract with them. Will have projection on cost of project, estimated budget of 5 million dollars. We know that inflation will come in higher. We hope to stay in budget, may have to value engineer some expenses like ballfield, pickleball, dog park. Will be a 30/60/90 review of plans. Will have Committee sign off on 30% of plans. The Advisory Board will normally see plans at 90%. On Agenda October 3, 2016 for BOC. Mike asked how much will County allocate, Aaron replied 2 million dollars and after audit proposed 2.5 million for a total of 4.5 million. Applied for Partff Grant and was awarded \$300,000 for a total now of 4.8 million.

**\*Youth Football, Cheer, Soccer and Adult Men's/Women's Softball**

Youth Football and Cheer kicked off on 8/29 with the Jamboree. This is first year being held at TCP. Benefit is we can play two games at same time to cut down on long days with Staff and overhead. Currently we have two deputies on site to help with traffic concerns. Signs have been placed at fields to separate parents and coaches. Soccer is in full swing, as well as adult softball.

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

Danny asked about changes to ball fields at Smithville. Aaron stated no changes to existing plans. Currently plans will be three youth fields, eight tennis courts, four pickleball courts, restroom/concession stand and press boxes. Danny asked why wasn't Smithville done like Town Creek. Danny said that 15-year old's and up were left out. Aaron indicated they usually played at high schools. Younger kids played on 60-90 and never has been an issue. Now travel ball wants to be played at Parks but originally Park wasn't designed to accommodate that age group. Legion Ball use to accommodate now we can have major and pre-majors cause high school coaches want to play at high school. Bobby Child said that travel ball is killing community baseball and County is losing good players. Aaron said can do during the design. Irrigation at 90 feet can be a problem at Town Creek Park. Smithville design has already been finished. Dale asked about playground at Leland Park and Aaron stated they are working on that and fencing. Aaron also informed the Advisory Board that NWP had applied for a grant for playground and received a 50 % match. After audit should be able to move forward.

**VIII. Adjourn Meeting**

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

**IX. 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, Penny King and Tanya Jackson

Citizens of Interest: Bobby Child, Carol Harpster and Rick Harpster

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, October 18, 2016