

**MINUTES**  
**BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**November 12, 2019**

**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 October 8, 2019 Meeting**

- **Mike Sullivan made a Motion to accept the Minutes as approved and Kris Crane seconded. The Minutes were approved 4 to 0.**

**IV. Citizens Wishing to be Heard**

There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

**V. Commission Business Session**

- **Special Populations Coordinator**

Aaron introduced Steve Goodwin as BCP&R Special Populations Coordinator.

Steve began by stating he started working for P&R in September 2007. He explained he oversees the programs for youth and adults with intellectual disabilities and wears two hats, one for Local Coordinator for Special Olympics and the other for Therapeutic Recreation. Currently has 515 athletes registered with Special Olympics. One of his biggest events is Spring Games currently held at Town Creek Park.

Steve explained he has year-round programs. Recently took 32 to Fall Tournament in Charlotte, NC. Competed in tennis, basketball, and basketball skills.

Partners with Brunswick County Schools on Therapeutic Programs through their EC Program. Bowling is a five-week program that is once a week and on the 5th week there is a tournament and pizza party.

Laura asked if the bowling was at Planet Fun? Kris asked if the program was during the day? Steve replied yes.

Steve continued by stating he has programs for horseback riding, aquatics and music/dance. Mike asked where the horseback riding was held?

Steve stated it is a program through Coastal Therapeutic Riding and he has been facilitating it for 11 years.

Laura asked do we transport the participants?

Steve responded yes through the County School buses.

Kris asked does Brunswick Community College offer programs and Steve said yes through their BIP Program.

Aaron said Steve was a valued employee and that Steve loves what he does. Aaron also said that during budget process he tries to get the most funds we can to help with the programs since Steve's program was not a revenue-based program. We payout only.

Mike asked how long the County had this program in place?

Aaron said since the mid 90's.

Teagan said it was growing every year.

Steve said there was a big influx from retiring families moving to the area and was growing.

Kris asked if there was a qualification process?

Steve said there was a set of criteria they fall under with more of a clinical diagnosis and social skills to participate. They do their best to include everyone.

Aaron said Special Olympics in the Spring Event has over a thousand participants counting the volunteers.

Teagan asked if the date was set for next year?

Laura asked didn't we do a Fall Event also?

Steve stated they are too busy with other programs to do a Fall Event, but that the Spring Event is set for May 1, 2020 at Town Creek Park.

Steve said they are doing the Polar Plunge on February 29, 2020 at Middleton Park in Oak Island.

Mike asked can you make donations to Polar Plunge?

Steve said yes and there is a link on our website to donate.

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

### **• Update on Smithville Park Project**

Southern Asphalt has put walking trail in. Reworking and grading the multipurpose field. Have quotes on sod and turf installation. Everything on original Phase 2 will be completed and work towards Phase 3. Slowly start ticking away at other items in Phases.

### **• Update on Ocean Isle Beach Park Project**

Have final pay application and have applied for final payout of Partf. At last meeting had questions from concerned citizens regarding the Park and the Dog Park located within. Have fixed the gate and poured a 10 x 10 area of concrete to accommodate where the gate is. Added 4 tables and 4 benches. Addressed the muddy area and put out sand. Still some concerns about the lighting. We are doing the best we can, but as of right now there are no changes. Park has a lot of activity. Fall ball still going on and soccer has finished. Park is something we needed to help with rain issues at Shallotte Park.

### **Update on Brunswick Waterway Park**

Operation Services is working. Quoted 3000-foot driveway at cost of \$18 square foot and will be \$27. Will be a little short and will look for ways to do Phase 1 of Grant.

### **• Update on Navassa Park**

Working with Smith Carolina to get date of delivery for amenity. Still waiting as next step will be to move to second bidder but turn around would be six months to a year. Would have to go through process again so hoping we can stick with Smith Carolina.

### **• 10 Year Comprehensive Master Plan**

RFQ has been sent out. Will ask Advisory Board who wants to serve and help to pick a Firm. Kris asked if there was any other role they would need to do? Aaron said there would be public hearings in their Districts and would be good for them to attend as Advisory Board Member.

### **• Comments from Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members**

Mike Sullivan shared a video regarding coaching the Southport Cougars. Shared that he had been serving in this role for years and that this season was a tough season for his

team. He put together the video to show his team that is isn't always about the scoreboard, but about your hard work.

Laura asked what age the players were?

Mike said Junior Team was 6-9 years and Senior Team 10-12.

Mike said Town Creek didn't have a team this year and each year they give out an award titled the Tyler Bethune Award. Since there wasn't Town Creek Teams, those players played on the Southport Cougars. Based on this, when the award was presented this year, it was given to a Southport Cougar player. This was the first time this award was given outside of the Town Creek Bulldogs Team.

Kris asked why wasn't there a Town Creek Bulldogs Team?

Aaron said sometimes it works that way based on low participation numbers.

Suggestion was made about having the Sheriff's Department fly the drone over Parks and Recreation Events to advertise.

Mike asked about having night football games again.

Aaron said it got so hard having 5 am till 1 am days on Saturday for the games and works better now to have dual games running so the day is more of 7 am till 3 pm.

Mike said kudos to P&R and that he had a great football season with awesome parents.

Mike said he did the video to show behind the scenes all the hard work done.

Aaron ask everyone to say a prayer for Dale's dad who wasn't doing well.

Based on attendance, the upcoming meeting of December 10 was cancelled.

**VII. Adjourn Meeting**

Teagan made a Motion to adjourn meeting and Mike seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

**VIII. Meeting Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Laura Botto, Kris Crane, Teagan Perry-Hall and Mike Sullivan

Board Members Absent: Dale Rabon

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

Citizens of Interest: None

Next Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020