



City of Boiling Spring Lakes

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PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

City Hall

August 20, 2014 at 6:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Sandra Krasnow, Verda Darrell, Suzanne Goffredo, Janet Wall, Bob Stanley, Bruce Pennington

Members Absent: Bon Cantrell

Commissioner Liaison: Mary Stilwell

Staff Present: Mary Green, Parks & Recreation Director
Pamela Bellina, Administrative Assistant

I. Call to Order ~ The meeting was called to order by Sandra Krasnow at 6:31 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda ~ Commissioner Stilwell stated that after she read the City of Boiling Spring Lakes Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Ordinance, the Committee must also elect a Vice-Chair so please add “and Vice-Chair” to “A” under Old Business.

III. Approval of Minutes ~

A motion was made by Verda Darrell and seconded by Bruce Pennington to approve the July 16, 2014 minutes as written.

Motion Carried 6-0

IV. Public Comments ~ Ann Hollingsworth, Chairwoman of the Community Appearance Commission, presented Mary Green with completed surveys she had collected. She also stated she now includes the Parks and Recreation Calendar in her Welcome Packages.

V. Old Business ~

A. Elect a Chairperson and Vice Chair ~

Bruce Pennington nominated Bob Stanley as Chairman.

Vote 6 – 0

Bob Stanley nominated Verda Darrell as Vice-Chair.

Vote 6 - 0

B. Survey update ~ Mary Green stated the surveys are going great and she has received approximately 200 completed surveys. Her plan was to stagger the release of the survey and the next release will be through Survey Monkey where she has approximately 1,400 email addresses.

C. Lighting at tennis/basketball courts ~ tabled until next month for an update from Bon Cantrell.

D. Foot wash station at Spring Lake Park ~ Mary Green stated the water spigot, at its current set up, cannot be locked and is potable water as required by the health department to allow Special Events to hold the Spring Fling at the Lakes event at the park. It is metered with a back flow preventer so it is not lockable. There was just recently 10,500 gallons of water used at the park which Mary is investigating. Bruce Pennington advised Mary of a way a lock can be placed on the water spigot and Mary stated she would look into it.

A Motion was made by Bob Stanley and seconded by Suzanne Goffredo to take no action at this time.

Motion carried 6 – 0

VI. New Business ~

A. Pets in the Parks ~ Mary Green stated there will be Board of Commissioners' Workshop on Thursday night with respect to creating a leash law for the City. Mary Green prepared and distributed a memo which showed the results of a query she put out to NC Recreation and Parks Association Members on their leash laws. Mary asked the Committee their comments on opening up the parks to pets which was discussed. It was agreed to leave North Lake Park as the park that allows leashed pets, and the parks which did not have water such as Muse Park, the area across from Spring Lake, the Community Center and the trail by the Community Center, Schneider's park – any park without a posted swimming area – to allow leashed pets. Commissioner Stilwell stated the BOC's main concern at this time is unleashed dogs going into yards and doing their business. The Committee

discussed their concerns of residents who do not pick up after their dogs. Mary Green asked Commissioner Stilwell if there will be verbage that residents must pick up after their dogs when the law is created. Commissioner Stilwell stated that was one of the concerns of the Board as well as aggressive dogs. Mary Green reminded the members that if they are attacked by an aggressive dog, the dog needs to be reported to Animal Control so they can take measures to deem the dog aggressive and to take action. Commissioner Stilwell asked the Committee to please come to the Workshop and voice their opinions about a new leash law and pets in the parks. Mary Green stated he believed that once the leash laws are in place, it will bring responsible pet owners to the parks if there were more amenities or features in the parks such as allowing pets. Bruce Pennington asked who does a resident call on a weekend if Animal Control is not on duty. Mary Green stated to a resident should call 911 and state it is not an emergency and ask for the duty officer of Boiling Spring Lakes. Commissioner Stilwell advised the Committee Members that the City's Animal Control Officer is Bobby Britt. Commissioner Stilwell asked the Committee if a member could appear at the BOC Workshop and state the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with respect to a a leash law and pets in the parks. Mary Green stated she would attend the BOC Workshop on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

VII. Citizens Concerns ~

A. Previous Citizens Concerns ~

- 1. Shade at Muse Park ~** Mary presented a quote for a commercial shade canopy for almost the entire playground and swing area which quote is \$16,440. The Committee discussed shading smaller areas of the park with 3 – 5 triangle shade sails which she thinks would lower the cost down to \$9,000 to \$10,000. The committee would like to offer some shade in that park.

Mary also provided quotes for new surfacing. One quote was for wood fiber which is engineered wood fiber, not just mulch. The other quote is for a pour-in-place rubber surfacing which is similar to a rubberized gym floor. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of the two types of surfacing. The rubber surfacing does get hot especially with the darker colors. The price for the rubberized surfacing is \$38,750 which Mary stated would not be her first choice. The wood fiber has issues such as insects and scattering of the fiber outside of the borders which then gets shredded by the mowers. Mary commented that the sand was the best option for the price. The maintenance of the rubber surfacing is the best as it just needs to be cleaned off and power washed and will last for many years.

Mary Green stated she will no take action at this time on any of the quotes.

2. **Alligators** ~ Mary Green stated she would like to continue the discussion on alligators as they are still a big concern. She advised there are two relatively good sized alligators who have taken residence in Seminole Lake which is a small pond with an active swimming area. One is approximately 5 foot and the other is 6 foot. The 5 foot alligator has been approaching people and Animal Control and Mary Green were in contact with the wildlife biologist. Mary commented that there needs to be a major campaign between Parks and Recreation, the Police Department, Animal Control and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board advising residents on not to feeding the wildlife because if you feed the fish and the ducks, you are also feeding the alligators. Mary spoke with the neighbors surrounding the lake and they believe it is park patrons feeding the alligators. One of the neighbors has a night vision camera which will be taking pictures of the lake.

Mary Green commented that Parks and Recreation's responsibility is in keeping the parks and park patrons safe while understanding that there are State and Federal laws about feeding the alligators. Only a wildlife specialist is allowed to move an alligator. The issue is what determines that an alligator is acting in a manner other than normal. What one person thinks might be aggression, another person may not. There are signs posted in all of the parks that there is wildlife present in the lakes, please do not feed the wildlife. Mary thought that education should be the first line of defense in educating the public. She said the biologist stated the City is in a very unique area as alligators do not go much north of Wilmington and live in fresh water ponds. Our City has swimming areas at our fresh water ponds. Mary would like to contact some towns in Florida that have the same situation. Suzanne Gofreddo suggested that flyers be handed out at Trunk or Treat to inform the residents as that is who usually goes to the parks swimming are parents with the children. Sandy Krasnow suggested that educating the children is important as well.

B. New Concerns ~ None.

General Discussion ~

Sandra Krasnow commented how hard it was to get residents to respond to the survey. Mary Green commented the survey so far has shown a lot of interest in the Boiling Spring and safe places to walk and bike. Mary further commented that this City is growing and there is a real need to develop a pedestrian and bicycle plan. The kids skateboarding is also a big concern.

VIII. Announcements ~

Mary Green reminded everyone that the 10 Year Anniversary Celebration for the Community Center is September 7 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM. Ads will be placed in the State Port Pilot. Live music, free food, funnel cakes, door prizes, silent auction, raffle items, inflatables, jousting for kids and adults and more.

Mary announced the Community Center's new Fitness on Demand program. The new program will quadruple the amount of fitness classes the Community Center will be able to offer residents such as kids classes, senior classes, kickboxing, kettle bells. She stated classes are free this week and next week, membership starts September 1. Mary stated she will be giving out free passes at the Anniversary party. Taxpayers will be charged \$3/day, \$15/month or \$150/year. Non taxpayers \$5/day, \$35/month or \$350/year. The combo packages for both fitness room and classes will be \$30/taxpayers and \$55/non-taxpayers. Mary explained there will be a "Choose your own class" which is not a scheduled class and it is on a first come, first serve basis - whoever gets there first chooses that class - but the majority of time will be scheduled classes. There are over 300 different classes available. \$3/day allows as many classes as you want to take – a full day pass. The Boiling Spring Lakes Community Center is the third facility in the State to utilize this program. Mary stated the Commissioners were very generous when she presented the program at the budget meetings. The equipment purchase and installation was just shy of \$11,000 and the monthly subscription is \$150. The installation and equipment will be paid within 12 months. She commented that although the \$150/month subscription sounds expensive, to get instructors who will come down and teach a class is very hard. They will not teach unless they are guaranteed \$60 a class so this new program will really benefit the residents. The Community Center will supply most of the equipment such as dumbbells, steps, weighted bars and kettle bells but will not supply yoga mats although there will be mats for sale. Participants will have to sign a release and have the proper paperwork as before. Online reservations are available for each class.

The upcoming concert on the fourth Thursday of this month is Bob Stanley and the Hired Hands with Lucy Love.

IX. Next Meeting Agenda Items

A. Lighting at tennis / basketball courts.

X. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Bruce Pennington and seconded by Suzanne Goffredo to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted ~ Pamela Bellina, Administrative Assistant