



City of Boiling Spring Lakes

9 East Boiling Spring Road
Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 28461

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes April 20, 2016 6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Stanley, Chairman, Bon Cantrell, Co-Chair, Bruce Pennington, Sandra Krasnow, L. Paige Garza, Carolyn Doshier

Commissioner Liaison: Mary Stilwell

Staff: Mary Green ~ P&R Director, Pamela Bellina ~ Administrative Assistant

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Robert Stanley at 6:37 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mary Green requested to add to the agenda, Old Business, d. Greenway update.

A motion was made by Sandy Krasnow and seconded by Bon Cantrell to approve the agenda with the change noted hereinabove.

Vote: 6 - 0; Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bon Cantrell and seconded by Bruce Pennington to approve the March 16, 2016 minutes as written.

Vote: 6 - 0; Motion Carried

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Communications Subcommittee**
- b. Facilities Subcommittee**
- c. Department Subcommittee**

Sandy mentioned she saw the park benches and they are very nice. Mary mentioned they have their first memorial park bench for Chris Stewart. The goal for raising the money for the purchase of the bench for the family has almost been met. Mary will ask the family which facility they would like to have it placed.

Bon Cantrell is still looking at the properties by the school for the possibility of a new facility. He also mentioned that the fishing pier at North Lake is coming along nicely. Bob Stanley asked if there would be handicapped railing. Mary advised the top rail will be removed in several sections for wheelchair accessibility. Bruce questioned if they would be removable and then can be put back in case a child falls over. Mary advised that a child cannot fall over those areas.

Paige apologized for missing last month's meeting and asked if Pamela could add her office email to the distribution list when the agenda and minutes are emailed as a secondary notification to her home email as she looks at her office email more. She has put on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page automatic alerts of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting notifications which will automatically populate every month. People are still taking the demographic survey and she has started a chain email with a group of teachers that are BSL residents to take the survey and pass it on.

V. Old Business

- a. Dog Park Survey**

Mary Green apologized for not being clear on what you wanted her to do with the dog park survey as the minutes stated "potential cost and who would create and distribute the survey." Mary asked for clarification. The members discussed how the first dog park survey was handled, whether to add it to the current survey and if there too many surveys in the City. The members decided to put the question on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page to see what the residents' interests are and to please share the post.

- b. Parks & Recreation Fee Schedule**

Mary prepared a three-column sheet showing the current Parks & Recreation policy, the potential new policy suggested and the potential impact of the policy change. Mary reviewed and discussed at length each column with the members and the potential impacts of the policy change. Mary reminded the members that a vote has to be taken tonight whether or not a recommendation for change will be made to the Board of Commissioners as it must be part of the budget recommendations.

A Motion was made by Bruce Pennington and seconded by Sandy Krasnow to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to change the Parks & Recreation policy from taxpayer/non-taxpayer to resident/non-resident.

Vote: 6 – 0; Motion Carried

Commissioner Stilwell stated she will have the recommendation added to the next Board of Commissioner meeting. The members then discussed who from the Advisory Board can make the presentation to the Board of Commissioners because it cannot be part of the Chairman's report. Paige agreed to make the recommendation before the BOC at the May 3, 2016 meeting at 6:30 PM.

Mary then asked the Advisory Board members for recommendations as to whether or not any changes should be made to any of the fees charged by Parks & Recreation. She went through the charges and discussed each with the members.

Room Rentals per hour: The members agreed there should be an increase of \$10 to the charges for taxpayer and non-taxpayer: Taxpayer: Lakes Room \$75, Games Room \$35. Non-taxpayer: Lakes Room \$110, Games Room \$60.00. The cleaning fee, alcohol fee and security deposit fees will remain the same.

Weekend Lakes Room Packages: The members agreed there should be an increase to the charges for taxpayer and non-taxpayer for the 4-hour rental: Taxpayer: \$300, Non-taxpayer: \$450. For the 8-hour rental: Taxpayer: \$550 and Non-taxpayer: \$850.

Fitness Room: No changes were suggested to any of the fees because there is too much competition in the area. The only suggested increase was to water. The members suggested increasing the charge to \$1 for a bottle of water.

Programs: The members discussed with Mary the before/after school program fees as well as the out of school activity days and agreed there should be no changes made to any fees as they are in keeping with if not lower than other programs. There were no changes to Out-of-School Activity Days as they are in keeping with other towns. As to summer camp fees, the Advisory Board members will discuss in November fees for summer camp for the year 2017.

Mary advised her programs show a 22% to 28% revenue bring-back which means for every dollar spent, the department brings back 22 cents to 28 cents and that in some years it has been as much as in the mid 40%. Mary reminded the members that the department wants to stay competitive and cost effective but cannot lose sight of the bottom line.

c. Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget

Mary provided an update as she had her first budget meeting. The line item budget looks good at this point as far as what was asked for and what is still in the budget. She advised the Muse Park renovation is in the budget at \$18,000. The Spring Lake Park concession is out of the

budget but Mary will resubmit the request for next year but present it as the City construct the concession stand and the actual concession will be leased out to a person and/or company

Mary further advised the Parks & Recreation Master Plan update is out of the budget. She was able to get the cost down to \$6,000 from \$9,000 but the Board of Commissioners will not consider it. Mary advised the Master Plan update will be dead in the water if the Advisory Board does not advocate for it which must be done before the May 3rd BOC meeting. Without having the Parks & Recreation Master Plan updated, the Department will not get as much money from any grants applied for and in some instances grants cannot be applied for without a Master Plan. Without this plan, there is no chance of getting PARTF money, very little chance of getting NCDOT grant money. Master plans are needed at least 2 years in advance. A Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a public input document. It is designed to get stakeholder groups together, public input through public meetings – what the residents want from the Parks and Recreation Department. This plan fits in good with the Land Use Plan currently being formulated, the Greenway/Blueway Project, the Parks & Recreation Greenspace Master Plan – they all fit together and with this extra plan it increases our chances when we go after grants. The more we can get the public message across as to what they want, the better chances we have.

Mary also advised that the \$2,000 for the appraisal of the Alton Lennon property adjacent to the Park has been removed from the budget.

d. Greenway update

Mary provided the members with a draft of a map from a meeting she attended earlier in the day with the State with respect to the Greenway/Blueway project. Mary explained the legend on the map and the green lines represent available walking trails as of today's date, the red lines are the proposed Greenway routes/connections and shows how they connect to already existing routes and right-of-ways. To the right side of NC 87 are some connections the project is looking to make. The red lines on the left side indicate NC Plant Conservation Program ("PCP"). The dark green area is the Nature Conservancy. Nature Conservancy is willing to work with the City. PCP is not as favorable to the City being there but they did not close the door and we have not been recommended to the Scientific Committee yet but hopefully it will happen. Mary advised it is a long process and a lot of red tape to set foot on that land without a permit (all of the light green property on the map). The other green area is Orton Plantation. The City has an open door with Orton and we have a request in to them. Kirstie Dixon from Brunswick County Planning met with the Orton attorney who has received our absolute wish list which includes Orton purchasing the boiling spring land and giving it to the City of Boiling Spring Lakes. Orton is a very philanthropic organization and they are willing to consider all of our wish list items. It will be very beneficial to get Orton on board with the Greenway project. The map is a draft and it was presented to the State today. There are four separate areas on the map the Greenway/Blueway project is asking the State for. One may go through out of the four and the remainder will be moved, scraped or taken in a different direction. The best route for the City would be the Antenna Farm Road area. The program hopes to have a draft of the plan to the public at the end of May and a finalized map by early Fall. There is public misconception that this project will bring sidewalks to the City and it is imperative that the word gets out that the project is for bike paths and elevated pathways, not sidewalks.

VI. Public Comment ~ none

VII. New Business

a. Lake Testing Schedule

Mary advised that Environmental Chemists, Inc. will test the water quality of Spring Lake, Mirror Lake, Seminole Lake, Tate Lake and the Big Lake on the following dates: May 23rd, June 20th, July 18th and August 22nd. The tests follow bacteria level thresholds for E.Coli, Total Coliform and Fecal Coliform. If any test shows 2 of the 3 bacteria are over state threshold levels, a swimming advisory is immediately posted and the lakes will be retested within 7 to 10 days. The lakes would re-open with a drop in bacteria levels under state levels.

b. Subcommittee Goals

1. Communications Subcommittee

Paige advised that there is a Facebook promotion the committee can take advantage of and for \$20 the page can reach 100,000 people in a 30 mile radius (or whatever radius we choose). Mary thought it was a great way to get more followers on Facebook. This will allow promotion of the community center for events; promote the fishing dock, etc.

2. Facilities Subcommittee

Bon stated he will continue to look into property for a future recreation center and suggested moving the playground facility to the community center or another location and use that park area of a recreation building. Neither Bruce Pennington nor Paige Garza wanted to see the playground removed from that park. Paige did not want to see the bigger picture delayed by building this smaller building. Mary reminded the members to push the Master Plan because that is what is needed to plan for the future. The members discussed put the vote to a referendum for the next big election. Paige discussed having a presentation prepared showing what a new facility could look like and that may be what gets the residents interested in getting the vote.

3. Department Subcommittee

Bob will continue to monitor the progress at North Lake fishing pier.

VIII. Next Meeting Agenda Items

2016-2017 Budget update
Parks & Recreation Fee Schedule changes and change to resident/non-resident verbiage.

IX. Announcements ~ none.

X. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Bruce Pennington and seconded by Sandy Krasnow to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM.

Vote: 6 – 0; Motion Carried

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Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Bellina
Administrative Assistant