



City of Boiling Spring Lakes

**9 East Boiling Spring Road
Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 28461**

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2019
6:00 P.M.
City Hall**

Attendance: Bon Cantrell, Chairman, Dory Manz, Vice Chair, Tom Guzulaitis, Jodi Moon, Sheryl Johnson

Absent: Bruce Pennington (excused), Philip Casper (absent)

Commissioner Liaison: Dana Witt

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman Bon Cantrell called the monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 6:03 PM.

II. Approval of Agenda

Bon requested that Public Comment be heard before Old Business as Jerry Wolf would like to speak with the Advisory Board.

A motion was made by Tom Guzulaitis with a second by Dory Manz to approve the agenda as amended.

Vote: 5 - 0

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dory Manz with a second by Tom Guzulaitis to approve the October 17, 2018 minutes as written.

Vote: 5 - 0

IV. Public Comment

Jerry Wolf, Acacia Drive, member of the Garden Club, wanted to solicit help from the Advisory Board for 'Operation Clean Sweep' that the Boiling Spring Lakes Garden Club along with Boiling Spring Lakes Parks & Recreation Department and Keep Brunswick County Beautiful hosts each year to help keep the roadways of Boiling Spring Lakes clean. The event will be held on March 23, 2019. Registration starts at 8:30 AM and the 'sweep' is from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Their plan every year is to sweep certain areas of the City prone to debris and he wanted to solicit help from the Advisory Board, whether it be helping to pick up debris, placing flyers around town, obtaining door prizes from local businesses for the raffle, helping at the event to sign people up or handing out supplies. Anything you would like to do to help with the event. He also requested the Advisory Board to help spread the word about Operation Clean Sweep. The Parks & Recreation Department will be providing refreshments and the Garden Club will have a raffle at 12:30 PM. Jerry noted how much the Parks & Recreation Department does for the Garden Club and how very appreciative they are for the support.

Commissioner Witt asked who the point of contact was and Jerry advised he was and provided his contact information. Mary asked how much time he was asking from volunteers to help with the event beforehand. Jerry thought a few hours at most. Sheryl asked if there will be organizational meetings before the event. Jerry noted that as soon as he had volunteers to help at the event, he would schedule a meeting. Tom asked how many times a year the sweep takes place. Jerry would like it to be at a minimum of twice a year but in the past they have only held it once a year. It benefits the City, residents and businesses if the City is kept clean.

V. Old Business

a. Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force

Tom provided the Advisory Board with a copy of the letter the Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force presented to the Planning Board and to the Board of Commissioners from which he received positive feedback from both boards. The letter urged the Planning Board and the Board of Commissioners to consider the need for safe alternative ways to traverse the city by foot or bicycle as the planning of the infrastructure and roads are being developed after Hurricane Florence. The letter went on to reiterate the residents' desire to have walkways to navigate the city by foot or bicycle. Tom advised the Task Force was planning their next meeting.

b. North Lake Property Acquisition

Commissioner Witt explained there has been no further action taken since Hurricane Florence on this topic. The Parks & Recreation Director explained that not much of the land is gone although it had been under eight feet of water during the Hurricane. Once the State makes the permanent repair by moving the pipe to the middle of the lake, everything will be back to normal in that area. Tom proposed this was the time to reach out to the listing agent to speak with his client about donating the property and suggested guaranteeing the listing agent's

commissions as an incentive to speak with his client. Dory noted it would be a tax incentive for the landowner to donate the land. Bon will follow up with the City Manager.

c. Pets in the Parks

This topic was tabled to next month as Phil Casper was not in attendance.

d. Muse Park / PARTF Grant

The Parks & Recreation Director noted that without a Public Works Director and a Building & Grounds department head, she was not comfortable moving forward with the redevelopment of the park until the new hires were in place. She hoped to have the redevelopment started in the Fall of 2019 but with the longer wait will be higher construction costs. This year during budget talks Mary will be asking for contingency money in her budget to accommodate the higher construction costs. Bon expressed his concern if the City will have the funds for the match since it was waiting on reimbursement from FEMA for Hurricane Florence costs and if that would interfere with the park project. Mary did not think it would as the City had a big fund balance prior to the storm. Commissioner Witt advised the BOC committed to the match of \$208,000. Mary further advised they had three years to complete the grant and redevelopment of the park. Dory inquired if there could be a rider because of the Hurricane. The Parks & Recreation Director said there is some leeway and spoke with their Recreation Resources Associate who is aware of the hurricane destruction and the City's predicament from the hurricane. Mary hoped they would work with her should that need arise but with the three year time frame, Mary did not believe that would be a problem. Tom inquired as to the rumor about PARTF being disbanded or reorganized. The Parks & Recreation Director said it was a misnomer that everyone including herself reacted to. The House bill in Raleigh was to disband the PARTF funding board. The PARTF grant funds would be there but they wanted to disband the advisory board that oversees the funding. Mary advised PARTF is still intact.

e. Hurricane Florence Damage Report Update

The Parks & Recreation Director explained that the Community Center will be getting a new roof tomorrow but it is basically back to normal. Better than before the hurricane.

f. Lake Water Testing (other areas of the lakes)

Bon suggested removing this topic from the agenda since it will be awhile until the lakes have water.

g. Crystal Lake Treatment for Vegetation

Crystal Lake was to be treated for vegetation when Hurricane Florence hit the City. Bon was sure that given everything the City is going through, this treatment has been put on the back burner. Tom or Bon will follow up with the City Manager to see if the vegetation treatment could be scheduled to take place in the near future.

h. Report at BOC meeting (review/remind)

The following Advisory Board members will report at the BOC meetings:

February – Dory Manz
March – Tom Guzulaitis
April – Sheryl Johnson

VI. New Business

a. Subcommittee Reports and Goals

- New Members Choose Subcommittee

Jodi chose to be on the Communications subcommittee and Sheryl chose to be on the Department subcommittee

- Facilities; Communication; and Department Subcommittees

The Facilities subcommittee reported that the Community Center was now open and that Schneider's Park was a mess and still under water. The Parks & Recreation Director advised they may not get to the Schneider's park project this year. It will be a good project for the new Public Works Director when he or she gets hired. Bon suggested an alternate entry to the right of the park and some sort of fencing along the property line by the house on the left of the park. Bon also inquired who owned the property on the other side of the Park. Mary advised Orton Plantation owned that property. Orton is in the process of turning all of their land back into the rice paddies they historically were so it would be good to involve them in discussions about the water issues for Schneider's Park since Orton likes water.

The Communications subcommittee did not have a report as Phil Casper was not in attendance; however, Dory noted that Mary has been posting on Next Door which is a great way to communicate with residents. Bon said Phil's Facebook page has a lot of members and is a great method of communicating with the residents also.

The Department subcommittee noted that as previously discussed, the Community Center was open. The Parks & Recreation Director provided the members with an information sheet called '2018 at a Glance' where Mary reviews the past year and all of the accomplishments the department achieved along with what she anticipates for 2019.

This year the Parks & Recreation Director is looking at leveraging a lot of auxiliary accommodations. Mary hopes to be back at South Brunswick Middle School for summer camp this year but advised it does cost to rent these accommodations.

VII. Next Meeting Agenda Items

Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force
North Lake Property Acquisition
Pets in the Parks
Hurricane Florence Damage Report updates
Crystal Lake Treatment for Vegetation
USDOT BUILD Grant (Brunswick County Greenway Trail)

The Parks & Recreation Director reported that Jennifer, the co-author of the USDOT BUILD grant (which Parks & Recreation did not get awarded in 2018) had a lengthy conversation with the funder on why we did not get the grant. Most of it was because 580 applications were submitted, however, only 91 were chosen. It had nothing to do with the City but was the sheer volume of applications received. Jennifer wanted to know if the City would be interested in going for the grant again. Mary forwarded the email to Bon and Tom. Mary did not believe it was going to be a quick turnaround like it had been last year and asked Tom and Bon to forward the email to the Advisory Board and put it on the agenda for February. Then, if it something you think Mary should move forward with, make the recommendation to the BOC so when the request comes up again next year, it will already be approved.

The Parks & Recreation Director advised she should hear next month on the pedestrian planning grant with NCDOT.

VIII. Announcements

There were no announcements.

IX. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Dory Manz with a second by Sheryl Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM.

Vote: 5 - 0

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Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Bellina
Administrative Assistant