



City of Boiling Spring Lakes

9 East Boiling Spring Road
Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 28461

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2019

6:00 P.M.

City Hall

Attendance: Bruce Pennington, Philip Casper, Tom Guzulaitis, Jodi Moon, Sheryl Johnson

Absent: Dory Manz

Commissioner Liaison: Dana Witt (absent)

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

I. Call to Order

In light of Co-Chair Dory Manz's absence, Bruce Pennington offered to chair the meeting. He called the monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 6:04 PM.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mary Green added to the agenda two items: Old Business, h., 2019/2020 Budget and New Business, c., boat/kayak launch.

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

Vote: 5 - 0

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Tom Guzulaitis with a second by Jodi Moon to approve the March 20, 2019 regular meeting minutes and March 27, 2019 special meeting minutes as written.

Vote: 5 - 0

IV. Old Business

a. Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force

Tom advised they are still waiting on the State. Mary believes they should be hearing from the State late by May or June. This topic will be placed back on the agenda once they hear from the State.

b. North Lake Property Acquisition

The Parks & Recreation Director advised that North Lake, the road leading into the park and the park itself will be part of the Sanford Dam construction project because the damage to North Lake was a result of the breach of Sanford Dam. The Sanford Dam construction project will be started in June of 2020 which will result in an extended period of time without access to this park. Tom has not heard anything from the listing agent of the North Lake property. Mary advised that her budget for the purchase of this property has not been funded at this point. If the Advisory Board would like to recommend the BOC include \$10,000 for the purchase of this property in Mary's budget, she urged the members to write to Commissioner Witt.

A Motion was made by Tom Guzulaitis with a second by Phil Casper to recommend to the BOC the funds of up to \$10,000 necessary to acquire the North Lake property be included in the Parks & Recreation Budget.

Vote: 5 – 0

The Communications subcommittee will compose a letter to Commissioner Witt with the above recommendation to be submitted by the end of April.

c. Pets in the Parks

Phil would like to obtain regulations from surrounding towns that allow pets in their parks. He would then like to discuss the pros and cons of allowing pets in the parks with the Advisory Board members. After discussion, if the committee is in agreement, make a recommendation to the BOC to allow pets in the park. The Communications subcommittee will start researching.

d. Hurricane Florence Damage Report

The Parks & Recreation Director noted an issue with the port-a-john having not been pumped in a while at Alton Lennon Park. Although there is no water in the lake at this time, the park is still open. Mary has taken care of this situation and has increased the number of times the port-a-johns in all parks will be pumped to three times a week. The Parks & Recreation Director advised she has received \$13,000 in lost revenue from the insurance company for being

closed 111 days after the hurricane. The First Baptist Church also received a sizeable payment from the insurance company for use of their facilities during those 111 days the Community Center was closed. All insurance claims have been settled but there are FEMA claims still out there.

e. Crystal Lake Treatment for Vegetation

Tom emailed the City Manager earlier in the day to ask what the plan was for the treatment of vegetation at Crystal Lake as well as a few other lakes he noted were choked with vegetation and is awaiting his response.

f. Kiwanis/Landscape Structures LLC Playground Grant

Michael Kirchner will be meeting with Mary on April 25 to discuss the playground grant further.

g. Report at BOC Meeting (review and remind)

Tom will be covering the May BOC meeting. Phil will cover June and Bruce will check his schedule to cover July.

h. 2019/2020 Budget

The Parks & Recreation Director explained she is asking the City be more competitive with the salary of her summer camp counselors. Their current rate of pay is \$9.79/hour whereas the County's rate of pay is \$14.00/hour. Mary noted this position carries a tremendous amount of responsibilities and the City's rate of pay is low for this position. Mary's concern is the caliber of camp counselor she is getting at \$9.79 and would like to see the salary gap closed a bit to be competitive. The Parks & Recreation Director was pleased nothing was cut in her budget to date.

VI. Public Comment

Jeff and Dorothea Roberts, 981 Eden Road: Expressed their displeasure that nothing has been done about Seminole Park. They have been to several BOC meetings where they have spoken about the problems at the park and they have spoken with the former Chief of Police but nothing is being done. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are requesting a designated area for swimming and would like the police to patrol the parks more often, especially on Friday, Saturday and Sunday which is when the park is most often used. They feel a police presence will deter the unwanted activity going on in the park. They also noted maintenance of the park needs to increase after the heavy use of the park on the weekend. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts also advised people launch their kayaks and floats in the lake with no designated area specifically to launch watercraft.

The Parks & Recreation Director explained that designating a specific area for swimming is hard to enforce but can be done. She further explained that once an area is designated and a person gets hurt swimming within that area, it becomes a liability for the City. If they do not designate an area for swimming, the lake is covered by the State law of open and obvious risk regulation in parks. The Parks & Recreation Director further explained a new Senior Maintenance Technician has been hired by the City and she believes there will be a marked improvement in the maintenance of the parks. As to patrolling of the parks, Mary thinks that Chief Jordan can be asked to attend the next Parks & Recreation meeting and asked Mr. and Mrs. Roberts to also attend so the issue of patrolling the parks can be addressed. Mary suggested extending the invitation to Hugo Bryant, Senior Maintenance Technician to attend the meeting to address maintenance of the park.

VII. New Business

a. Elect New Chairperson

Bruce Pennington, as acting chair, asked for a nomination of a new chair person in light of Bon's resignation from the committee for personal reasons. The members nominated Tom Guzulaitis as Chair and he accepted the nomination.

Vote: 5 – 0

Tom thanked the members of the Advisory Board for their nomination and looks forward to being Chair of the Advisory Board.

b. Subcommittee Reports and Goals

- Facilities; Communication; and Department Subcommittees:

Facilities subcommittee: In light of Bon's resignation, Tom has agreed to move over to the Facilities subcommittee. Mary asked the Facilities subcommittee as well as all of the members to visit Seminole Park before the next meeting and make recommendations about upgrading the park.

Communications subcommittee: Communications subcommittee will work on the recommendation letter to Commissioner Witt about allowing funds in the Parks & Recreation Department's budget for the purchase of the property next to North Lake park. They will also start researching pets in the parks.

Department subcommittee: There was no report.

c. Kayak/Boat Launch

The Parks & Recreation Director provided the members of the committee with the Ordinance specifically relating to watercraft in the lakes. Mary posed the question to the members: should we allow launching of watercraft (boats, kayaks, canoes) in lakes without a designated area? Are rafts considered boats? Tom said a raft is an inflatable. Mary explained a better understanding of the Ordinance is needed in order to enforce it. She asked the members to read through the Ordinance and to pose questions to her.

The Parks & Recreation Director also explained on the horizon they will be discussing drones and float planes.

VIII. Next Meeting Agenda Items

Seminole Lake
North Lake Property Acquisition
Pets in the Parks
Crystal Lake Treatment for Vegetation
Kiwanis / Landscape Structures LLC Playground Grant
2019/2020 Budget
Boat Launch Regulations

IX. Announcements

The Parks & Recreation Director announced the Spring Concert Series starts in May.

Walk with a Doc starts on May 11 at 9:00 AM and will continue once a month at the Community Center. This is an opportunity to meet and walk with a doctor, ask questions and listen to the doctor's presentation.

Spring Fling will be held on May 11 at Spring Lake Park.

X. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Phil Casper with a second by Jodi Moon to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Vote: 5 - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Bellina
Administrative Assistant