

MINUTES

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

April 11, 2017

The Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 12:00 noon at the Athletics & Activity Center Conference Room. Board Members Present: Jeff Donaldson, Chairman, Elizabeth Moss, Vice-Chair, Jennifer Hensley, Virgle McClure, Terry Maybin, Corum Smith, Tommy Laughter, Ralph King, and Scott Rhodes. Absent: Sue Myers and Charlie Messer. Staff Present: Tim Hopkin and Diana Edney.

Minutes: Corum made a motion to approve the March 14, 2017 minutes. Virgle seconded. Motion approved.

Public Input:

Stephen Cefalu spoke to the Board concerning the soccer fields at Jackson Park. Mr. Cefalu informed the Board that he coaches soccer and basketball for the department. Mr. Cefalu stated that the soccer fields at Jackson Park are beaten up pretty bad, and games and practices have been cancelled due to rain, moisture and drainage problems, which can be disappointing to coaches and families. Mr. Cefalu informed the Board that some families have abandoned the soccer program due to the poor field conditions. Mr. Cefalu asked if upgrades to the soccer fields could be included in the department budget. Tim stated that he has requested in this upcoming budget for turf grading, seeding and irrigation. Tim said with turf plaining, irrigating and re-seeding the fields, would require working with the schools on using their fields in the fall while the fields at Jackson Park are being worked on. The Board thanked Mr. Cefalu.

New Business:

1. Programs and Parks Updates – Tim gave the Board an update on the following:
 - Dana Park – the playground was installed and has been well received by the community.
 - Tuxedo Park Playground – Gave the rep the updates for the playground equipment and hopefully will have new update for the next community meeting
 - Etowah Park Concession Stand – stucco work has been done, working on the inside and the electrical.
 - Arts Bazaar – This event will be held on Sat. April 22nd in the gym from 10am-3pm.
 - Sr. Games and Silver Arts – Registration is now taking place, games are held in May and the Arts portion will be held June 1st.
 - AAC Gym had to be closed due to heavy rains, which caused flooding into the exercise rooms and in the gym.
 - Tennis Courts – Tarheel Paving has been contracted to do the paving of the tennis courts at Jackson Park.
 - Soccer practices have begun as well as games.

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2. **Greenways Update** – John Mitchell, Business and Community Development Director gave the Board a Greenways update. Mr. Mitchell stated that he authorized staff to move forward with a Master Planning and to seek two feasibility studies. (1) Jackson Park to BRCC, with a possible extension to Flat Rock Park or AAC to include possible expansion in Jackson Park (\$40,000; 20% county match); (2) Study, Berkley Mills to Westfeldt Park, Kunz Farm Park, (\$56,000; 20% county match). Mr. Mitchell stated that funds were applied for from the MPO at the end of March and hopefully will be back by the end of April to take back to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Mitchell stated that you have to have the feasibility study to do construction, so hopefully by next January he can go back to the BOC to get their approval to move forward. Mr. Mitchell stated that the earliest this can get started will be January, 2017.

3. **Unfinished Business:**
There was no unfinished business to discuss.

4. **Miscellaneous:**
 1. Jeff asked Tim if he has heard anything on the Ecusta Trail. Tim said he has not, but he can get in touch with Hunter Marks and get an update. Elizabeth said several people went to Raleigh to talk to the legislation about the trail.
 2. Elizabeth informed the Board about the Kiwanis Bunny Hop 5K Run on Saturday, 15th, Elizabeth said all money collected go to children in need and then stay for the department's Easter Egg Hunt at noon.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana L. Edney

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Clerk to the Board

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