

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 10th, 2018, 12pm, AAC

In attendance: Corum Smith, Hunter Marks, Tricia King, Phillip Ellis, Jennifer Hensley, Ralph

King County staff present: John Mitchell, Erin Hendrix, Laura Rice, Tim Hopkin, Bridgette Galloway, Jason Kilgore

Meeting called to order at 12:12pm.

Minutes taken by Erin Hendrix

Public Input - Dennis Justice

Suggests that the upcoming PARTF grant be used to softball and baseball field upgrades, better basketball courts and scoreboards. It should not include any form of soccer. He also suggests that the county host outdoor viewing parties for the World Cup games.

New President of Girls Softball – Pricilla Davis

John introduces Priscilla who has taken over as the president of the Girls Softball Association. Priscilla says that she has spoken to the Etowah Lion's Club and they are willing to make a donation make in order to purchase new bleachers for Etowah Park. The association is currently holding raffles of gift cards and prizes donated by local businesses in order to raise finds. There are 117 girls registered this year. She attributes a lower enrollment based on the previous year's poor publicity and the increased popularity of travel ball.

Senior Games and Silver Arts – Bridgette Galloway

Bridgette updates the board on the upcoming games, dates, and participation. She invites the board to the opening ceremonies on May 1st.

RecDesk Launch – Erin Hendrix

Erin introduces a new processing system for the Parks and Recreation Department. She states that the new system will be easier to navigate as a user and as an employee but will also save the department and the customer money each year and encourage more online enrollments.

Elite Limousine - John

John asks if the board would like to push this agenda item to the next month's meeting when Carleen Dixon, the director, will be in attendance. Phillip makes the motion and Jennifer seconds.

PARTF grant update - John

John says that with the issues with school safety and pressure on the budget, the Commissioners are discussing how much they would be willing to match. There is also some discussion of what they board would like to do with the money if we get it. It is possible that they will not approve us to apply. They have asked us to bring information back about what items would cost to determine how and what money should be spent. He says that seeking grants is a good use of staff time and we have learned a lot from the public in this process. Jennifer asks if we are still going to make the deadline. John answers that it will cut it very close but that PARTF comes around every year. Jennifer asks if there is a chance that they will vote on it during the April meeting. John says yes, there is a possibility. Phillip asks if Carleen has been directed to provide different information. Yes, John answers, she will have more information available to the Board if they would like to see it. Jennifer asks if it wasn't approved

because of the way the improvements were prioritized. Yes, John answers, and we knew that it was always a possibility that they would feel that way. Phillip asks how our county compares to others regarding percentage of the budget spent on recreation. John says that he believes that it is comparable to other counties but that it is up to the individual to look at the budget and come to that conclusion individually. Ralph states that money should also be spent on the smaller parks in addition to Jackson Park. He says that the Recreation Advisory Board should show enough leadership to ask for money from the commissioners for the things that we need. John suggests revisiting what the recreation department has submitted for the next fiscal year's budget for the sake of clarity. Phillip agrees.

Recreation Update – Erin Hendrix, Jason Kilgore, Laura Rice

Laura give a brief overview of the Easter Egg Hunt and Senior Games Kickoff and lets the board know that we are working diligently to schedule all of the field space for soccer, baseball, softball and various sports programs. Jason says that it is a very busy time for maintenance getting the fields ready. John says that the Greenway Master Plan Committee will be meeting again on Thursday. The Board should be proud of their participation in this endeavor.

Member Comments:

Ralph asks for clarification on the special meeting and what was presented as option for the PARTF grant. John gives a brief summary. Hunter clarifies that the proposal that the Advisory Board voted on was based on the feedback that they heard and received from the public input meetings that were held. Corum says that we brought in a consultant to help determine the best strategy, and they worked with what he recommended.

Motions:

Jennifer makes a motion to approve the minutes from the previous month's meeting and the special meeting. Phillip Seconds.

Jennifer makes a motion to include a presentation by Laura on Open Streets on the agenda for next month. Phillip seconds.

Phillip makes a motion to adjourn at 1:04pm. Tricia Seconds.