

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 11th, 2018, 12pm, AAC

In attendance: Jeff Donaldson, Terry Maybin, Hunter Marks, Ralph King, Tommy Laughter, Jennifer Hensley, Katie Breckheimer, Tricia King, Corum Smith

Staff present: Carleen Dixon, Casey Conner, Autumn Radcliff, Marcus Jones

Meeting called to order at 12:07pm. Minutes taken by Erin Hendrix

Minutes from August approved by all.

Public Input

Dennis Justice presents the Board with a flag and proposes a dedicated pickleball facility with a covering and air conditioning.

Introduction of New Program Supervisor – Casey Conner

Carleen introduces Casey. Casey shares his background and experience with the Board.

Review of Bylaws and Roles of the Recreation Advisory Board

Carleen reviews the Advisory Board Bylaws highlighting the functions of the Board. Appeals and quasi-judicial hearings will be removed by the county attorney. She encourages the board to read them and let her know if they have suggestions of things to include in the future.

FY 19 Planning and Goals

The top five goals for the board are in the agenda packet. These are the goals created by the board in partnership with the department last meeting. They have been turned into SMART goals and organized by type. Many of these goals are already been working towards

and coincide with the needs assessment and the comprehensive plan. Now that Casey is hired, we can pursue this full-steam. Carleen asks if there are any questions about the goals. Tricia clarifies her point about synthetic fields. Jenn asks if the comprehensive plan was started last fall. No, Carleen answers, the plan was postponed by John until Carleen was hired and Carleen believes that a needs assessment must be completed before we move forward with some pieces of the plan. Ralph asks about a special needs soccer program at East Flat Rock Park. Carleen says that Donnie Jones (with special needs sports) does not have a program currently but that they can meet with him about it in the next week.

Kunz Farm Update and presentation of the summary that will be going to the Board of Commissions seeking approval for an agreement with McGill Associates

Kunz Farm Park is not a developed park yet. This is the park that we have discussed building a bridge over the French Broad River to make it accessible from Westfeldt Park. We have a proposed agreement for McGill Associates for \$24,100 to do a scope of services for hydraulic and permit assessments to see if we can feasibly build a bridge over the water at this point. This park was a donated piece of property and the access to this park is difficult and problematic. This park was a key piece in the Greenways project to connect the greenways up to Buncombe County. Marcus explains that the State of North Carolina requires an architect or engineer to assess the project before they proceed with federal or state funding. Jenn asks if NC State University would be using the land for hemp research. Carleen answers that it is being used currently for researched. Jenn asks if we are able to dictate what they study on that property since we own it. Autumn answers that nothing has been written in the usage agreement, but that it is something that she could bring up the chain of command to see if they are interested in that.

Food Truck Policy

Last month, we promised you a draft policy for mobile truck vendors for the parks. We have created a solid draft policy that you will find in your packet. We still have a few issues to follow up on with insurance, the Health Department, and language making sure it is all correct. Once we finalize those issues, we will be taking this policy to our county attorney for finalization. Jenn voices concerns over the usage fees. Tricia would like to encourage local vendors rather than large, outside companies.

Director's Update

Carleen calls attention to the pictures on the projector. Tuxedo Park has a new shelter that is beautiful, and the community is very excited about it. There is paved access to the bathrooms and playground. We are still waiting on tables to be delivered to that space. There was a clean-up event by Conserving Carolina at Jackson Park. There was a large tournament on Fields 6,8, & 9 as well as the four fields in Etowah with 34 teams by Top Gun that is the largest that we have had in the parks in a long time. September 29th and October 6th will be large tournaments as well. Top Gun estimated that they brought in about \$95,000 in revenue to the county for that one-day tournament.

We caught the kids that trashed the concession stand in Etowah Park. There were three kids who broke into the park three different times and caused hundreds of dollars in damages. We have also caught the man who broke the windows at Edneyville. Farm City Day is coming up on the 6th of October. Also, be on the lookout for our new Recreation Fall Program Guide. It will be on the website, emailed out, and on hard copy for the department.

Member Comments:

Tricia asks if there is a comprehensive plan for the Kunz Farm Park. Carleen answers that there are basic plans but that the park is limited in what they can put there due to its location in a flood plain.

Ralph suggests that the board have a memorial for Virgil McClure. Discussion took place on if the Lions Club had already planned something. It was determined that this discussion should continue when Ken Wise was in attendance since he is the current President of the Etowah Lions Club.

Meeting called adjourned at: 1:06pm

Motions:

Approval of minutes from August.