

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 10th, 2020, 12pm, AAC

In attendance: Jeff Donaldson, Terry Maybin, Milton Butterworth, Corum Smith, Phillip Ellis, Scott Rhodes, Robert Smith, and Tricia King.

Staff in attendance: Carleen Dixon, Casey Conner, Jason Kilgore, Zach High, and Cory Blackwell.

Speakers in attendance: None

Call to Order: 12:09pm

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve February minutes made by Milton Butterworth, seconded by Robert Smith, unanimously approved.

Public Input: None

New Staff

Cory Blackwell introduction.

Board is full and everyone has been reassigned for another term, thank you.

Jackson Park Bike Park Update

To encourage public use at Jackson park bike park, Henderson county with volunteers and Sycamore Cycles has received grant money to construct a sunshade or shelter. Building permit has been acquired from the city to start moving forward with building the structure.

April Meeting Cancellation- Due to the meeting falling on Spring break, and the majority of board members and staff will not be able to attend, it is suggested that we consider cancelling the April 14th advisory board meeting. Carleen noted that she does not have any time sensitive items to approve at April meeting. Motion to cancel April's board meeting presented by Terry Maybin; Second made by Philip Ellis; unanimously approved.

Edneyville Staff

We will be waiting until the new fiscal budget to request the full-time position at the New Edneyville Gym. In the meantime, we will work to hire two part-time staff to start programs at this location.

Revisit Budget

Carleen reviewed a copy of entire Parks and Recreation Proposed budget for FY21. Key things that were pointed out include:

1. We are asking for two Full-Time Recreation positions. One position will shadow Donny Jones assisting with adaptive sports programs with the goal of taking over the program fully so, Donnie can retire. The second position is a programmer to run the Gymnasium at the New Edneyville Elementary School.
2. Then we are also asking for a new Parks Technician 2 position that will assist Jason with the workload in Parks.
3. The department has lost three vehicles due to mechanical issues and has asked for four (4) new vehicles.

A question was asked about the funding in the budget for the Jackson Park house. Carleen noted that it was for a lot of various repairs to the house including repairing cracking in the exterior walls of the house that is allowing currently allowing moisture to enter the building.

4. Due to a need and community concern, the department has budgeted funding to repair the walking path at Etowah Park.
5. Funding to replace the main playground in Jackson Park with a safer and ADA compliant one was requested.
6. Funding to connect the Jackson Park house to city sewer because the drain field currently there is not functioning properly due to the trees that have grown up over the years.
7. Funding to install a new maintenance shop at Jackson Park to reduce wear and tear on equipment that is currently being held outside.

Motion to Support the proposed P&R Budget: Motion made by Terry Maybin; Second made by Philip Ellis; unanimously approved.

Henderson County Youth Softball- Participation has been low, but with New Board members, they are hopeful the program will grow.

Recreation Update (Casey Conner) - Soccer programs kick off in 2 weeks with about 500 kids signed up. The sprouts soccer program has high participation numbers with about 75 signed up and with start soon after. Upcoming events include the 38th Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Jackson Park, Four Seasons Senior Games and Silver Arts, and the 2020 Movies in the Park summer seasons. This includes:

- June 12 at Jackson Park – Frozen II
- July 10 at Dana Park – Sonic the Hedgehog
- August 14 at Etowah Park – Onward
- September 11 at Tuxedo Park - Mulan

Tricia King shared some details about the upcoming Abilities Tennis Program: it is for adults living with mental disabilities. Registration on our website at www.hcprd.com.

Parks Update (Jason Kilgore) – After someone lit a trashcan on fire in one of the restrooms at Jackson Park we needed to repaint, so now the insides of all bathrooms in Jackson Park have been newly painted. Staff also redid the epoxy floors, they look great. Staff have been busy prepping and laying out soccer fields, moving soccer goals and putting up nets. To date we still need to paint the lines but everything else is done. Heavy rain has created issues and delayed laser grading on our ball fields, but they are about to finally wrap up and the fields are looking really good. Heavy rain has caused issues in the areas of the park that were used for the Cyclecross race. Staff are working with the event organizer to get these areas recovered. Phil mentioned having experts give recommendations of how to avoid the impact of weather.

Member Comments:

Terry Maybin mentioned the restrooms and grounds looked fantastic for her chili cookoff at Tuxedo Park.

Corum asked that we host one of our upcoming meetings at the New Edneyville Elementary School. It was discussed that Carleen and Scott Rhodes would make arrangements to do this for the June meeting.

Jeff Donaldson would like future advisory board meeting to potentially take place at one of the parks, for example Tuxedo Park. Carleen noted that we could work to schedule the July or August meeting at Tuxedo park.

Jeff Donaldson- will there be pickleball at Edneyville? Carleen notes that yes, we can host pickleball at Edneyville but not until we get auxiliary staff hired.

Motions:

1. Motion to approve February minutes made by Milton Butterworth, seconded by Robert Smith, unanimously approved.
2. Motion to cancel April's board meeting presented by Terry Maybin; Second made by Philip Ellis; unanimously approved.
3. Motion to Support the proposed P&R Budget: Motion made by Terry Maybin; Second made by Philip Ellis; unanimously approved.

Call to Adjourn: 12:59pm