

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, 12pm, Edneyville Community Center

In attendance: Jeff Donaldson, Milton Butterworth, Scott Rhodes, Phillip Ellis, Stephanie Cantwell, Katie Breckheimer, Corum Smith, and Robert Smith.

Staff in attendance: Carleen Dixon, Cory Blackwell, Jason Kilgore and Mike McClaran

Speakers in attendance: None

A. Call to Order: 12:06 pm

B. Approval of Minutes: With Tricia King's corrections to October's minutes, a motion to approve made by Phillip Ellis, seconded by Milton Butterworth, unanimously approved.

C. Consent Agenda: None

D. Public Input:

E. New Business:

a. Report on Tournament Activity for 2020 - Carleen

Non "Top Gun" one day/ adult tournaments have not changed significantly in the last 3 years; approximately 8 a year. Top Gun tournaments went from:

- Zero - 2017
- 179 teams - 2018
- 250 teams - 2019
- 571 teams - 2020

The estimated economic impact for 2020 for Henderson County is 1.73 million dollars. The recreation department does not generate profits from the tournaments; however, money and taxes go back to the county through hotel stays, restaurant visits etc. Not only are these funds supporting Henderson county businesses, but the tournaments give local teams and participants a chance to recreate and exercise.

Milton suggests getting a work group together and discuss healthy living and the impacts of the "Top Gun" tournaments in Henderson County, as well as impacts of Covid-19 and its relation to recreation in the community. Katie, Stephanie, Jeff and Milton all mentioned they are interested in being on this panel. The board supported the creation of this committee to move forward. Carleen noted she would reach out to set up the first meeting.

Stephanie mentions that there has been public questions about not having a playground in Jackson park via the Top Gun attendees online in social media.

b. YMCA Meal Site- Carleen

15 percent of youth are under the poverty line in Henderson County. The YMCA is looking for a new location to host a newly funded Saturday lunch program. Currently these are hosted outside as a "pick-up" but in the future as covid restrictions change they will need to be inside as a "meal site" children to come in and eat. Because of staffing and classroom availability in the AAC is an ideal space for this Non-profit program. It is a free program.

Milton suggest checking in with Henderson County Schools feeding program.

Carleen noted that we currently work with the HCPS free lunch program and host them in the summer months at Edneyville Community Center. This is a different program because it offers weekend meals that the school programs are unable to do.

*Bob Smith makes a motion to allow the YMCA to move forward with this program at the Athletic and Activity Center, Stephanie Cantwell seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

c. Activity Bag Overview – Casey

Casey not available for overview.

d. December Meeting Cancelled

*Katie makes a motion to cancel December meeting, Phillip seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

Return January 12, 2012 to AAC for meeting

F. Unfinished Business:

a. Budget Requests from the Board - Carleen

Carleen has requested for the board to provide any Top priority items for the budget 4-year plan and the current annual budget. The Oklawaha Trail Fix was noted by Katie, the field lighting repairs were noted by Stephanie, the JP playground was also noted by Stephanie.

Katie Breckheimer asked if organizations like "Top Gun" have offered to provide funding to support the parks. She also states that the Clear Creek Greenway in Hendersonville received 3 grants and she would like to know if the County is doing a search for ongoing grants for the Oklawaha greenway.

Carleen noted that the County applied for a PARTF grant for the greenway fix Katie is referring to and we were not successful. We continue to look for grant opportunities.

Philip mentions that he wants to see the 362,000 dollars requested to fix the greenway and suggests having the project added the capital outlay request list for FY22.

Kate Breckheimer mentions that Margaret Thomas's estate is working with Conserving Carolina to secure the parcel of land that connects to Jackson Park and hopefully will connect the greenway in the future.

Stephanie Cantwell mentions that several parents at the "Top Gun" tournaments have commented on the lighting being poor at Etowah Park.

Jason states the lighting system is dated and Etowah Parks water levels make it extremely difficult to replace bulbs because a lift truck cannot get on the grass. Lights have been a safety issue for the Recreation Department for some time now. The lights on field 8 and field 9 at Jackson Park were a prototype and it is impossible to find replacement parts.

Stephanie Cantwell questions if tournament profits can go back into maintaining Henderson County Parks and Recreation facilities from the TDA?

Jason states that the facilities department is looking to reworking the currently parking lots at Jackson Park to help add additional parking for future seasons.

G. Staff Updates:

1. Recreation Update – Carleen (Casey out)

"Dreadful Drive-thru was a great success! Well done event." Next activity bag comes out a week before thanksgiving and "basketball clinics" may start in January.

2. Parks Update – Jason

Michael McClaran introduction. His position maintains Edneyville Community Center, East Flat Rock Park and Dana Community Center and Park. This is now the down season and gives the facilities crew an opportunity to catch up, paint, laser grade and prepare for next season.

3. Admin Update – Cory

We are interviewing for a new front staff position. The AAC is open and operating programs at lower capacities. Front staff and I helped significantly in

the preparation and facilitation of the Dreadful Drive Thru event. Dana Community Center and Edneyville Community Center are now being rented.

4. Member Comments:

Katie Breckheimer has trouble understanding who's keeping up with greenways whether that be Conserving Carolina, Friends of Oklawaha, Friends of the Ecusta Trail, Parks and Recreation or the planning department? Can we have news on Greenways as a standing Recreation Advisory Board agenda item? Katie would like a written report from the Planning Department on updates for the greenway if they are not able to attend in person.

Philip agreed and noted that he would like updates pertaining to the consultants working on the greenway feasibility studies.

~~Motions:~~ Patricia King's corrections to October's minutes, A motion to approve made by Phillip Ellis, seconded by Milton Butterworth, unanimously approved.

2. Bob Smith makes a motion to allow the YMCA to move forward with this program at the Athletic and Activity Center, Stephanie Cantwell seconded the motion, unanimously approved.
3. Katie makes a motion to cancel December meeting, Phillip seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

H. Call to Adjourn: 1:18pm