

## **Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

**May 10, 2022, 12:00pm, 708 S Grove St, Hendersonville**

**Board members in attendance:** Douglas Moon, Robert Smith, Corum Smith, Milton Butterworth, Katie Breckheimer, Stephanie Cantwell, Terry Maybin, Jeffrey Donaldson, Scott Rhodes, Philip Ellis, and Tricia King.

**Staff in attendance:** Carleen Dixon, Autumn Radcliff, Megan Burnette, Bruce Gilliam, and Jason Kilgore.

**1. CALL TO ORDER: 12:08**

**2. WELCOME NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER – Doug Moon**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 2022**

Robert Smith made a motion to approve the April 2022 minutes as written. Stephanie Cantwell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Nomination of Officers**

**i. Vice-Chairman & Chairman**

Terry Maybin made a motion for Jeff Donaldson as Chairman nominee. He accepted the nomination. No other nominations for Chairman.

Terry Maybin made a motion for Stephanie Cantwell as Vice Chairman nominee. She accepted the nomination.

Stephanie Cantwell nominated Milton Butterworth as Vice Chairman nominee. He accepted the nomination.

**b. Edneyville Community Center Association**

The Edneyville Community Center Association (ECCA) helped fund the Edneyville Community Center (ECC) and have supported it since. There is a lot of cross over between the ECCA and the Edneyville

Grange, who also meets at the ECC. Because of this crossover, they are looking to dissolve the ECCA and pull those members into the Grange. The ECCA has funds that need to be put towards the community center before the organization can be dissolved. Funds could potentially be used for an outdoor court. Originally there was a plan to add a gymnasium to the ECC but instead they made the new Edneyville Elementary gymnasium a high school size gym for Parks and Recreation (P&R) to utilize as well with an office for P&R staff. This outdoor court at ECC would be a multisport court, similar to the one being built at Tuxedo Park, but larger. In the future, dependent on the financial and fundraising situation, the court could be covered, so that needs to be kept in mind for the original design. Don Henderson is heading that project and will be at the June Recreation Advisory Board meeting to speak about it.

Katie asked if there has been any more talk about improving the walking trail. Carleen said that the stream restoration project will cause the trail to be shifted. Soil and Water is going after additional grants to include the trail in the stream restoration project, but could possibly include it in the project even without additional funding.

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **a. Tuxedo Park Upgrades**

Terry Maybin gave updates on the Tuxedo Park project. Jason said they were out there today (5/10/22) grading. They will put stone down tomorrow and pave Monday or Tuesday. Terry said this will then need to cure for two months. Jason is working on marking and fencing bids. Terry confirms there is money to complete the job. There will be a half court for basketball and a full court for pickleball with futsal goals at the ends. The material is asphalt.

### **b. PARTF Grant Application Update**

Grant was approved by the Board of Commissioners. This grant has been submitted. Friends of Etowah Park and Etowah Lions advocated

to make this happen. Will find out in August if we receive the grant money.

**c. Jackson Park All-Inclusive Playground Update**

Finalized contract with Rev Inc. Carleen met with them for the first playground design meeting. They want a design layout that is easy to add on to for future fundraising. Tommy Laughter has been working hard on this project, through his advocacy work, new ideas, and bringing the community together. Currently at \$40,000 in cash donations. May be able to get more grants. Pardee adult fitness equipment is looking favorable. Looking at options for signage to include donors. No estimated construction start date yet. Planning on having it done by December, but that is dependent on both the firm and the manufacturing supply chain.

**d. Greenway Update**

Doug Moon serves on Rails Trails Advisory Committee, which is primarily working on the Ecusta Rail Trail. The engineer is working on completing the design work for the first phase which goes from Kanuga Rd. to Hwy 64. The City of Hendersonville and Henderson County have agreed that the City of Hendersonville will pay for engineering for Kanuga Rd. to cross Main St., but the county will oversee the contract since they are the leaser of that corridor. Staff applied for the next round of STBG for funding. They are looking at every funding source possible, many more will be coming up but have to find the right fit. It will cost 10 million for the final phase in Henderson County. They applied for construction fund grants. This funding will not become available until October of 2026. Project tied for 1<sup>st</sup> so funding should not be difficult. Autumn Radcliff has met with the City of Hendersonville about the Above the Mud project. Many people were concerned with the dog park. Overall goal with the Ecusta Trail is to connect everything.

Robert Smith asked if the Ecusta Trail can be opened incrementally. Autumn stated the sections will open as they are completed. The engineers are looking at the bridges now to see which need to be

replaced. It is currently a safety concern to have people on the trail due to these bridges so there are signs up warning against usage.

Jeff Donaldson asked if a decision had been reached on the type of surface. Autumn said it will be paved. The consultants are trying to anticipate traffic to determine how wide it needs to be. The trail may have to be narrower in places because of the stream banks.

Corum Smith asked if they are able to use the existing bridge across the French Broad River. Autumn hopes they can use it, but it still needs to be looked at. RTAC will be having discussions around all of these questions. They already have an encroachment policy in place. Their next meeting is tomorrow at 10am at the King St meeting room.

The trail will likely be striped similar to the Oklawaha Trail, with one line down the middle for two-way traffic. The project needs to stay within the road bed. Philip suggested making the bed as wide as possible, but only paving for current usage and go back in later to widen if needed.

**e. 2045 Comprehensive Plan**

Planning Department is finalizing future land use map. They will be bringing the recommendations that are relevant to recreation to this board.

**f. FY23 Budget Update**

Things that were not recommended by the county manager:

- Funding for park tech 2
- Office assistant
- 2 recreational programmers
- Jackson Park maintenance facility
- AAC soccer turf replacement

- Parks equipment
- Lighting upgrades for soccer fields
- Office equipment

The final budget will be voted on. The next Board of Commissioners meeting is an all-day budget workshop.

Philip asked how much longer the AAC turf can last. Jason said there is less than a ½ inch of fiber left. The upgrades requested would extend the shoulder further for safety reasons and would not take it to a regulation field size.

The \$450,000 for this includes grading, concrete removal, drainage, and a new subsurface. Just turf replacement is about \$200,000 but with the field needs it is more expensive.

Milton asked if the decision to not recommend the turf renovations was related to the recommendation to look for land for a multisport complex. Carleen said they were not necessarily related; however, the budget recommendation was announced at the meeting after the soccer meeting.

#### **g. Subcommittees Update**

Nothing to report, more updates coming in June. Formal recommendation from soccer subcommittee at next meeting.

### **6. STAFF UPDATES**

Bruce just had 7 weeks (9-week period) end of soccer. He got great feedback from coaches and parents. He will be sending out surveys to coaches and parents to get their written feedback. He will try to set up clinics for coaches who are new to soccer.

Adult softball started last night with 25 teams. 15 male teams and 10 co-ed teams. Youth softball and baseball are going well. Movies in the park coming up on Friday. 5 movies in the park this summer. In full swing for summer Senior Olympics. Silver Arts had a gala in the gym with dancing and food. Many businesses donated to the Senior Games. Special needs baseball plays Saturdays morning Jackson Park. He encouraged people to come out and help.

The food trucks are new to the movies in the park event. Food trucks are allowed for special events.

Jason reported on the large amount of park usage. Softball tournament numbers have been down, but they are utilizing the park. Jackson Park and the others have been busy. They are doing landscaping projects at East Flat Rock Park. They are putting 13 new tee pads on the disc golf course. This is probably the most used part of Jackson Park.

Terry asked for an update on the sewer system at Tuxedo Park. They will be putting it on an annual pump down schedule.

Milton asked for an update on staffing. The department is down two full time positions and has a number of auxiliary positions open. Hopefully making an offer to someone soon. Actively recruiting for Parks Technician I position. It has been difficult to get applications, especially for auxiliary positions. The department tries to be extremely flexible with auxiliary staff to help maintain them.

## **7. MEMBER COMMENTS**

Phillip was a coach for the U8 soccer league and stated Bruce did an excellent job keeping everything organized, even with rain out struggles.

STAR Camp begins June 14<sup>th</sup> (Stephanie). There are about 450 kids signed up. This camp is completely funded by the public through STAR Race, STAR Dance, and more.

## **8. ADJOURN: 1:08pm**

The next recreation advisory board will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.