

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes
August 7, 2013

Board Attendance Record

William Dryburgh (102/112)
Katherine Ariens (24/26)
Maria Greenberg (37/42)
Paul Bigness (3/6)
John Hitzel (37/38)
Fred Pazona (24/30)
Roger LePage (1 /1)

Present

John Hitzel
Maria Greenberg
Katherine Ariens
William Dryburgh
Paul Bigness
Roger LePage

County Representatives

Tommy Scott, Director
Lorah Steiner, Tourism
Maureen Broderick, Recreation Manager
Andy Stevens, Parks & Natural Resources Manager
Bonnie Blair, Administrative Assistant II

Guests

None

Call to Order

Chair Bill Dryburgh called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
Everyone welcomed new committee member, Roger LePage.

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the June 5, 2013 were unanimously approved.

2. Division Reports

Reports were distributed by email to members before the meeting.

- John Hitzel – Super Mini Golf, Tippecanoe Mud Run, South County Regional Pool Summer Camps
- Katherine Ariens – Cricket season (November) promotional opportunities/tournaments
 - i. Have the promoter meet with Tommy and put on agenda for next month.
 - ii. Katherine Ariens spoke with Laura Steiner about the possibilities.

3. New Business

- New member, Roger LePage, gave some background on himself and stated he is the V.P. of Port Charlotte Little League.

4. Old Business

- Prohibiting Alcohol in Parks – Youth Sports Council Recommendations for the 6-12-13 meeting
 - The Youth Sports Council chose #4 on the recommendations sheet provided by the attorney's office ... no alcohol allowed at parks where youth sports are played.
 - Katherine Ariens – definition should be expanded
 - Tommy Scott – the leagues have language in their agreements with the parents that stipulate you are not to have tobacco or alcohol at any practice or game.
 - Maria Greenberg - The main thing is that the sports leagues don't want any alcohol present at any of their functions.

- John Hitzel felt that recommendation #2 was more appropriate.
- Discussion ensued – recommendation to invite Janette Knowlton to the next meeting, which is September 4th.
- Recreation Manager Update
 - Maureen Broderick, new recreation manager, said she was excited about her new position and mentioned that they are in the process of recruiting for a replacement for her position at the Charlotte Sports Park.

5. Sports Council Update

- Youth Sports Council's next meeting is set for July 10th at 5:45 p.m. at Mid-County Regional Library, Administration Conference Room.
 - Maria Greenberg relayed it was a quiet meeting.
 - She will report to the Youth Sports Council what was discussed about option #4 next week.

6. Member Issues

- John Hitzel – future plans should concentrate on waterfront areas in Port Charlotte i.e. the area by the bridge needs improving, county should buy the vacant property on the west side.
- Katherine Ariens – Boy Scouts Eagle projects, drug issue in the gazebo and in parks, need to find a deterrent, what can be done?
 - Tommy said we are taking steps with the sheriff department, posting signs that state the gazebo is only open during business hours, this is an enforcement issue. We are encouraging citizens that if you see any problems, call 911.
 - Maria Greenberg mentioned a citizen's watch might be helpful.
 - Tommy talked about the SEPTED's that are being done to determine what recommendations are suggested.
- Paul Bigness – Rather than looking at the symptoms, focus on the problems of drug abuse, homelessness, etc.

7. Director's Report – Tommy Scott

- Update on Master Plan
 - Tommy met with the University of Florida; it will take 6 weeks for the first phase.
 - CIP presented to the BCC regarding our request for capital improvement projects and the reintroduction of work programs to be initiated – relayed items to be completed i.e. concession stand at South County, lighting issues, picnic shelters, shade, pool renovations, etc. Received a lot of support from the board.
 - Marie Greenberg requested the CIP list be emailed to everyone.
 - Pictures of Bayshore Live Oak Park new playground were passed around to members. It is being used daily by families. These are the types of playground equipment we are planning to install in the future.
 - Discussion of Coach Cookie gymnasium naming.

8. Citizen Input

None

9. Announcements

None

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

CC: Commissioner Ken Doherty, District 1
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2
Commissioner Bill Truex, District 3
Commissioner Stephen Deutsch, District 4
Commissioner Tricia Duffy, District 5
Raymond Sandrock, Administrator
Kelly Shoemaker, Deputy County Administrator