

## **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

May 3, 2023

### **Board Attendance Record**

William Dryburgh 5/5  
Maria Greenberg 5/5  
Don McCormick 5/5  
Kay Tvaroch 5/5  
Debra Anlauf 3/5  
Erick Toth 4/5  
Steven Leskovich 3/4

### **Present**

William Dryburgh  
Maria Greenberg  
Don McCormick  
Kay Tvaroch  
Debra Anlauf  
Eric Toth

### **Absent**

Steven Leskovich

### **County Representatives**

Ken Doherty, Commission Liaison  
Tommy Scott, Director of Community Services  
Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Resources Manager  
Mike Koenig, Resource Manager  
Ryan Normoyle, Recreation Superintendent  
Jill Boyd, Recreation Superintendent  
Leah Williams, Recreation Supervisor  
Kathy Koroschetz, Administrative Assistant

### **Guests**

David Pike - Peace River Picklers

Chairman William Dryburgh welcomed members, staff, and visitors to the meeting.

- Roll Call

- Minutes

Motion to approve the 2023 May Minutes made by Don McCormick and Maria Greenberg 2<sup>nd</sup> and was unanimously approved.

- Division Reports – February & March 2023

- Old Business  
None

- New Business

- I. **College swimming training** – Ryan Normoyle, Recreation Superintendent presented a recap summary of the 2022-2023 Winter Break Visiting Swim Teams. Ryan stated for the second consecutive year Centennial Park Pool and Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park Pool have hosted collegiate and club swim teams for their winter training trips.

- The participating teams were Milligan University at Centennial Park Pool 12/10/11-12/18/22. Attendance 51 athletes & 5 coaches
- Wilkes University at Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park Pool – 1/3/23-1/9/23. 13 athletes & 5 coaches
- Norfolk Hammerheads Aquatic Club at Centennial Park Pool – 3/8/23-3/18/23. 8 athletes & 2 coaches

Ryan Normoyle stated the estimated economic impact for the Charlotte County was:

- Milligan University - \$262,591
- Wilkes University - \$109,956
- Norfolk Hammerheads Aquatic Club - \$116,705

The survey result categories were on Staff, Pool Conditions, Facility and Overall. We are proud to say we were given the highest rating of *Far Exceeded Expectations* (FEE) on all the surveys!

**Future Teams:**

Milligan University – Dec 2023  
Wilkes University – Jan 2024  
Indiana Wesleyan – Dec 2023  
Duquesne – Dec 2023/Jan 2024

Tommy Scott replied that he has had conversations with other coaches, club teams as well and is working on recruiting additional teams. The numbers speak for themselves on the economic impact.

Maria Greenberg asked what the potential is for this program to become bigger? Tommy Scott replied there is two seasons for college training which is before Christmas break and after the break. Highschool and club teams however are year-round operations and a team from Houston is looking to come in October. We are positioning ourselves to be successful.

- II. **Summer Camp** – Jill Boyd, Recreation Superintendent went over the Community Service Summer Camp 2023 program. Jill Boyd explained Charlotte County Summer Camp is a traditional day camp for children ages 5-13 offered at Tringali Park (TP), Centennial Park (CP), Harold Avenue Regional Park (HARP) and South County Regional Park (SCRP). The program is available Monday – Friday from 7:15am to 6:00pm. The rates are weekly for Discovery Camp (grades K-2 \$100 per week), Explorer Camp (grades 3-5 \$100 per week) and Adventure Camp (grades 6-8 \$105 per week).

We have special programs and guest speakers scheduled that will include Stealth Mobile Laser Tag, Do the Happy Bounce and Bisque It Studios. Guest speakers will be Charlotte County Libraries, Drug Free Charlotte County, Drug Free Punta Gorda, UF/IFAS Extension Family Nutrition Program, Charlotte County Fire/EMS, and Charlotte County Sheriff's Office.

Registration was available online via Active Net, by phone or in person. The program runs for 11 weeks, and daily lunch is included for all campers. Registration began March 6<sup>th</sup> and we are currently filled with a wait list at each location. Total number of participants registered in 2022 was 2,039. Total number of participants registered for 2023 is 2,382. In 2022 we were able to offer 7 families scholarships for 14 different children for total of \$5,355. In 2023 we were able to offer 6 families scholarships for 9 different children for total of \$3,889.

Each location will have 2 Camp Supervisors and 4-13 Camp Counselors depending on location.

- Sports Council Update – Erick Toth

- Reviewed the athletic partnership opportunities
- Pitch Hit & Run
- Background and insurance checks
- Facility use agreements review
- Post hurricane updates (buildings opened)
- Concessions and field repairs
- Facility Q & A sessions

- Member Issues

Erick Toth asked about the status of staffing. Tommy Scott replied, we are down to 86 openings from 120, and currently waiting for 19 background checks for potential new hires. Our numbers are coming down dramatically.

Don McCormick suggested sending a letter to the Editor reminding Charlotte County residents by saying "Charlotte County sustained millions of dollars in damages from Hurricane Ian and we are working diligently to get back on track and appreciate your patience". Tommy Scott replied people generally understand, but they are tired and getting frustrated. We are working with insurance companies, vendors, FEMA, waiting on

materials and it all takes time, but we are working to educate people of the time it takes and to be patient.

Kay Tvaroch inquired about the signage for the new smoking regulations, and when they will be installed in the parks. Tina Powell, Parks & Natural Resources Manager replied that they have been ordered and are expected in a few weeks and then they will start the installation of them in 64 parks.

Debra Anlauf complimented how professional, confident, and fun the staff at the Charlotte County facilities are.

William Dryburgh stated on 5/1/23 he and Maria Greenberg represented the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) and came to the Team Builder event at Centennial Park and said the staff were all amazing how they work and interact together, Maria Greenberg agreed and said it was a very inspiring and fun day with a great group of people.

Commissioner Doherty commented on the frustration level of residents with the progress of hurricane damage repairs by saying the majority of the residents do understand, but we have received some very nasty comments and it's unfortunate. The repair process for the county is almost exactly the same as it is for residents dealing with their own repair damages and it's a long process. Commissioner Doherty encouraged the board to tune into on Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup> to the Board of County Commissioners meeting (BCC), on the Agenda will be a lineup of Emergency Management, Community Services, Community Development and Public Works where we will be addressing a timeline and progress on these repair projects.

- Directors Report
- Tommy Scott thanked the board for the compliments on this years Team Builder. We have started long course at the pools on May 1<sup>st</sup> and will go until the end of summer. We will be leaving the pools long ways Monday - Thursday and Friday & Saturday it will be switched to short. It will accommodate all of our programs.

We will be reviewing the Parks & Recreation ordinance code and be making some recommendations to the BCC. We are working with the attorney's office and administration now and hoping to have it for you at the June meeting.

- Citizens Input – David Pike of Peace River Picklers voiced concerns that he heard the rates for the courts at South County Recreation Center (SCRCP) will quadruple, Mr. Pike said 3 months ago when the new rate structure was approved there was no mention of these increases. Mr. Pike stated that his organization does not make a profit and these costs are passed down to the members.

Tommy Scott, Director of Community Services responded by saying before we had designated pickleball courts there were blended courts for pickleball and tennis, which allowed for 4 pickleball courts on 1 tennis court. We charge by the primary use, so when playing on a tennis court we charge the tennis court rate and now the designated

pickleball courts have 4 courts on them which we charge for each court. This is the way our fee structure has always been approved.

- Announcement  
None
- Upcoming events  
None
- Adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

CC:

Commissioner Ken Doherty, District 1  
Commissioner Chris Constance, District 2  
Commissioner Bill Truex, District 3  
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, District 4  
Commissioner Joe Tiseo, District 5  
Hector Flores, County Administrator  
Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator