



MEETING MINUTES

Huntersville Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Members Present: Deanna Baumgardner, Kent Curran, Magic Cypress-McNairy, Kathy Jones, John Mielke, John O'Neill, Edward Parks, Hank Stiene

Absent: Rich Lange

Guests: Commissioner Dan Boone; Boy Scout Troop 200

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by John M., Vice-Chair, at 6:30 pm with a quorum present.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

John M. confirmed that a quorum of commissioners was present at the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Deanna moved to approve the minutes for the February meeting; Kathy seconded the motion. All approved.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. NMP Playground – The maintenance team is almost finished with assembling the playground at NMP. We anticipate it will be open for use by April 1st.
- b. Outdoor Fitness Zone – The ribbon cutting ceremony was on Tuesday morning, the 19th. The Mayor and two sponsors attended along with some of the commissioners.
- c. AEDs – All of the major facilities have AEDs now. They will be inspected regularly to make sure they are properly working.
- d. NMP Driveway – The driveway is currently being resurfaced and therefore no one can use the main entrance to the park. Everyone is being directed to use the driveway through Christ Community Church.

V. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- a. Magic reported on her meetings with HYAA and Nothing But Net.

Met with the director of HYAA (Brandon) on February 22nd at the Rec Center. Magic suggested he make a presentation to the PRC about how they are doing and what is currently going on with the organization. Brandon expressed his main concern was that he is having trouble finding sponsors to cover the costs of new equipment and uniforms for his teams. He asked if local sponsors such as McDonald's donated uniforms with their logo on the shirts, would it be okay with the Town. Michael responded that they can do whatever they want when it comes to uniforms and equipment. If sponsors want to contribute money that involves permanent equipment or signage, they would have to go through Parks and Rec for that.

Met with staff from NBN on March 11th and attended one of the practices. Carl Christy, president, explained how the organization was formed and how it runs. Carl did not take credit for the establishment of the program, however, he does take pride in how well the program is doing. Jim Crawford, vice president, spoke to the parents about what was expected of them and that unruly behavior would not be tolerated and how their behavior affects the children. Magic was very impressed with the program and how it is being run.

- b. John O. - Had family in town and used the parks while they were here. They all really enjoyed their time and were impressed with our facilities.

- c. Kathy – She saw a posting on “Next Door” regarding the Open Gym program at the Rec Center. The person went on and on about the residents/taxpayers of the Town do not have access to the open gym program. This person also commented on their issues with the greenways. Then Reta chimed in about pickleball and the issues she had with that program. Kathy did not feel comfortable addressing any of these comments as she did not know what all of the rules and policies were for open gym and pickleball were. Michael responded that the schedule is on the website. Typically, CPCC has open gym on Monday mornings for college students; Tuesdays and Thursdays is High School open gym from 3:00-5:00; Wednesdays is Lunchtime open gym (12:00-2:00); and Wednesdays and Fridays is Middle School open gym from 4:00-6:00. We are going to try add a three hour time slot on Sundays. Regular citizens can reserve the courts if they want to. Michael also stated that anyone who has questions or concerns can contact him directly. Please feel free to post his contact information on the Next Door website as well.

Michael mentioned that when Lake Norman Charter opens, we might be able to offer more gym time. Kathy asked if we could we put out a communication about the schedule? Michael said there already is a calendar of events on the town website, however, we could post it weekly on the main Facebook page. It was also mentioned that we do have outdoor basketball courts that people can use now that the weather is getting nicer. The Waymer Center will be opening at the end of the year so there might be more available open gym time there. The County will be running the center. NMP, Waymer and Abernathy also have outdoor basketball courts.

- d. Deanna – Attended the Regional Recreation Center meeting last month. It was an interesting meeting with good information.

VI. PROGRAMMING REPORT

1. Summer Camp – Registration went well. Started online registration at 6:00 a.m. this year. Filled up in 30 minutes.
2. Volleyball – 274 girls participating – 13% increase from last year. This is the first year we are offering an instructional program for 7 and 8 year olds. Filled up and some on waiting list.
3. Senior Softball – 217 seniors participating – 18% increase from last year.
4. Adult Softball – 45 teams total – decrease from last year that totaled 53 teams.
5. Outdoor Fitness Zone Ribbon Cutting was yesterday morning.
6. RecFit Challenge – Partnering with Novant – looking for 25 Huntersville residents to join – runs March 19 through April 30th. Free!
7. Pickleball Tournament at Rec Center on March 30th – for 30 years and up.
8. Jazz Concerts – There will be a concert every Saturday in April at Veterans Park (5:00-8:00 pm).
9. Next PRC meeting is scheduled for April 17th which is during Spring Break. Is this a conflict for anyone? Do you want to move it to the next week? Only one conflict so will keep the date as currently scheduled.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS, REQUESTS, OR PRESENTATIONS

Boy Scout Troop 200 attended the meeting as a service project. One of the parents had a few comments. He and his wife have three children in soccer at our fields, primarily at Bradford Park. During the busy soccer nights, people are parking on the grass, which has destroyed it. His wife said that parking further up the road is a challenge for people with young children and strollers.

Michael commented that we are aware of this issue and we are trying to find funding for more paved parking.

Parent also commented that the fields are great and their kids enjoy playing on them. The parking piece is the only challenge. Maybe other groups could help with putting something else down on the grass for parking? Also very happy to see open gym. He also asked if there were any plans to triple the size of the Rec Center to accommodate more basketball time. One of the commissioners asked the parent why he preferred indoor courts to outdoor ones. The main reason is climate control – heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer, especially for young children.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Strikers Soccer Club Contract. Back in February we discussed what kind of amendment to the contract we wanted to see between Strikers and CSA. It was agreed that the contract would state that Andrew would oversee and be in control of all operations of CSA Huntersville teams and that a trail of registration fees also be outlined in the agreement. An Addendum to the original Agreement was signed by both Strikers and CSA on March 12, 2019 (see attached). It appears that the Addendum covers everything requested. No teams will be able to play on the fields unless Andrew is control or unless he is given permission by HPRD. It also states that all money will go through CSA and then filtered down to Strikers.

John M. asked if we could request team rosters from Strikers so we know who is playing on the fields. Michael said yes we can do that.

- b. Michael asked the Committee if everyone is comfortable with the contract. A decision needs to be made by May 1st, which is the end of the soccer calendar year. We will take a vote at April's PRC meeting. Since Rich was not at tonight's meeting, the Contract will be sent to him so he can review it before next month's meeting.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 17th at 6:30 pm.