

Joint Recreation Commission Meeting
Amended Minutes for
Tuesday, September 20, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

James R. Carson, III	Beverly Caskey
Erica Abbott	Tiffany Whaley
Gerald Vetter	Quinton Rodgers
Lester Belk	Pam Giardiello

Members Absent

Tim Hallman

Staff Present

Hal Hiott
Katherine Walters

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by Lester Belk
- II. **Approval of August 2016 Minutes**- Tiffany Whaley made motion to approve; Gerry Vetter second; All in favor.
- III. **Public Comments**-None
- IV. **New Business**
 - A. **Strategic Planning Update and Planning Sessions**- Hal- This is something Tim Hallman mentioned at the last meeting about us updating the strategic plan. I will report at the next meeting on the things we have already completed. If you all will bring things that need to be updated or added.
 - B. **Third Reading of Hospitality Sales Tax**- Hal- Third reading will be Monday night (Sept 26. Those of you that can be there to support would be great.
 - C. **List of Projects presented to I & R Committee** – Hal- I presented a list of priorities that council will hopefully approve. First, was purchasing land and building new complex. Second, upgrades to Buford complex to complete park. Third, upgrades to Walnut Creek Park. Fourth, upgrades to Springdale. Steve wanted me to come up with 10 things. Another one was kayak launches, etc at Springs park boat landing or access to Catawba river. Those are things that can promote tourism. Steve wants to do something to 40 acre rock. This would be on a 10 year plan. Lester Belk asked about has anyone talked to Edgewater community about adding these things. Hal said he hasn't and that would be way down on the list. Hal stated he would email the list to the commissioners.
 - D. **Update on Fall Sports Numbers** – Hal- We have about 70 teams in soccer; 16 teams in football; 7 cheerleading teams; 18 teams in volleyball. Hal mentioned Steve wanted to cancel all of our activities due to the gas issue/shortage. Commission members asked to not move anything unless it was an absolute emergency. Hal stated we have had many compliments on the new photographer. Everything has gone smooth at the jamborees.
 - E. **Handouts on Approved SOP changes** –Hal- handed out an updated copy of the SOP manual of the changes the commissioners voted on. The highlighted portions are what was updated.
 - F. **Approve use of Contingency funds for HVAC units at Buford in Available after audit** – Hal – We would like to go ahead and get approval from you to spend the money to replace the HVAC

units at Buford Rec Center. The units out at Buford Rec Center are down and still struggling getting them all running. Currently, the units are not the correct size that we need for that facility. If we have enough money in contingency then we could spend some of that to replace the units. We will need to get 20 ton units and the cost estimate would be around \$30,000. We still do not know the exact amount of contingency we will have from last year. Tiffany asked could the old units be repurposed. Hal explained that we've spent so much on them to repair that they aren't worth saving. Rusty suggested waiting until we know the exact amount we have in contingency before we vote.

- G. Afterschool Numbers** – Hal- After school program is growing tremendously. We have closed off registration to Indian Land's after school program due to capacity and safety concerns. Hal explained that some people are enrolled so they can attend when school is out, etc. That's an issue for staffing as we currently plan for the attendance averages. Mike has asked that we speak to you about requiring participants to attend at least 2 days a week. Tiffany asked is there a way to hire more temp help during school closings, etc. Hal stated that Mike's wanting participants to attend an average of days per week over a month's time. Beverly stated she didn't understand how that would help if it was an average over a month's time. Pam & Beverly asked could it not wait until the new budget year. Hal suggested Mike to come up with a plan to remedy this; if your child doesn't attend "x" amount of days then you won't be able to attend school closings. Pam asked to invite Mike to come in and we revisit at a later date.
- H. Civic Use of Activity Rooms Policy**- Hal- Lancaster Rotary has approached him on using the Springdale Recreation Activity Room for meetings. They used to go to the Fairway Room and now they've moved to the Carole Ray Dowling Center at USC Lancaster which has no kitchen access. If they are a civic group, I have no problem them using our rooms at no cost. Obviously they would need to be available. We need to make a policy that any civic groups that give back to the community could use our facilities at no cost. Lester stated we must be very careful because we could open the floodgates. Rusty asked would this responsibility of opening the building and setting up fall on our staff. Lester mentioned what happens when another group calls and wants to use it for free. Hal mentioned that Steve said we could approve it by the group/organization. Lester stated that potentially we could charge a minimal fee which could help defer some of those groups. Lester asked to put it back on the agenda for the next meeting.

V. Old Business

- A. Update on Repairs at Pardue Street Park** – Hal – We've finished up over there. The city repaired the cement on basketball court. We've cleaned it up, took out old playground equipment that was damaged, cut limbs, cleaned debris, replaced basketball backboards, etc. City has put up lights for the courts. Park looks a lot better. City plans to put in new playground equipment in the future.
- B. Software Update** – Katherine – Software is coming along. We've already got about 1300 participants entered into the system and still have to finish entering soccer and volleyball. We plan to go live October 1.
- C. Update on Staff Training at SCRPA Conference** – Hal- Me, Katherine, Tyree, Micky & Mike all went to conference last week. We always learn new things, get to meet with our vendors we

use throughout the year and get any updated information from them and get to network with other recreation staff across the state.

- D. Update on Meeting with City and Town Administrators**– Hal- We met with all three administrators (except Steve-he was on vacation). We discussed all the pocket parks and the municipality taking those back and maintaining them on their own and do away with the appropriations they currently give the county. They all seemed receptive to it and plan to go back and discuss with their councils and committees to feel them out. We actually met with Flip today from the City of Lancaster and he is in favor of it as he believes the City should take care of them so we could focus on programming. It will only include the parks that we don't use for programs. If this happens, the County will have to come up with some funds to cover our equipment replacement difference. Hal added that this is in the very preliminary stages.

VI. Commissioner's Comments

- a) Tiffany asked when it comes to deciding plans of the complex, will the communities or citizens have a say in what is built. Hal stated that County Council will determine what that hospitality money will be spent on and determine what projects will be done.

VII. Director's Comments

- a) Hal- I wanted to give you an update about the school district owned parks, which are South, Heath Springs ball fields, Kershaw field, & Buford Middle school soccer field. There was a letter written about this property for them to take that back as we don't use it all that much anymore due to its condition. We would do this maybe next budget year to give them time to plan. They have talked to me and will give us Heath Springs ball fields and will take back South. I told them if they wanted the fence torn down, etc that we could help them with that. We still don't know about Kershaw field or the Buford middle school soccer field, which would affect us as we use that a lot for soccer because it has lights.

Motion was made to adjoin meeting by Pam Giardiello; Rusty Carson made the second motion. All in favor.

Respectively Submitted by:

Katherine Walters, Assistant Director