

**PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

**ZOOM**

**6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Rene Brannan, Bev Carroll, John Coleman, Larry Erwin, Benny Evans, Toy Rhea, Edwina Roseboro-Barnes, Perry Sutton, Matt Watson  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**STAFF:** John Taylor, Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, David Linder, Brian Jones, Amanda Helms  
**GUESTS:** Jennifer Wilford

**CITIZEN**

**COMMENTS:** Jennifer Wilford, Economic and Urban Development Department Director addressed the commission regarding the completion of the Sunset Park mural at Friedheim Park. She identified \$80k in Community Development Block Grant/Housing and Urban Development funds for additional park projects. PRT has provided a list of needs for planning purposes.

**MINUTES:** The November 10, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

**OLD**

**BUSINESS:**

Strategic Plan Update

- PRT expects to be given new direction regarding the strategic plan during the City Council Retreat in January 2021. The next three-year plan will begin in July 2021.

Master Plan Update

- Connectivity: Tech Park Bridge #2 construction is in process.
- Maintenance & Infrastructure: Northside exterior painting bid is in reference stage. Rock Hill Tennis Center court resurfacing is under contract. Miracle Park sidewalks and building masonry are in process. Rock Hill Tennis Center storage building bid opening is December 8.
- Sports Tourism: Rock Hill PRT continues to be a major economic development tool for the City. November events included 4 outdoor and 6 indoor events. Basketball events will continue at the Sports and Event Center in December. The Battle of the Rock basketball tournament is in partnership with Visit York County.
- Partnerships: The new soccer partnership agreement goes to City Council on December 14. The proposed partner will run the recreational soccer leagues within standards mandated by City Council with input from the commission. Under the agreement, PRT may still work with other agencies for events. PRT keeps control of field use decisions and maintenance.
- The Emmett Scott Advisory Committee worked with Director Taylor to select picnic shelter and playground projects for the Rock Hill Parks Foundation funding grant. Clinton Connect will be approached regarding the McGirt Auditorium \$2.6 million project. Additional immediate small projects such as lighting and fence upgrades are either in process or completed.

**NEW**

**BUSINESS:**

PRT Department Update

- Upon the retirement of Economic and Urban Development (EUD) Director Stephen Turner, PRT recently welcomed former EUD event staff Martin Lane and Sarah Key. They bring with them ChristmasVille and the Old Town Association (OTA) and associated events.
- PRT will review all aspects of events and work to more fully engage the OTA board.

Commission Accomplishments (draft attached to official minutes)

- Review and send comments to Amanda Helms.
- Approval will be sought at the January meeting.

Community Outreach

- The Master Gardeners of York County granted \$250 to Northside Recreation Center for a pollinator garden.
- Planning and planting/care of the garden will be a community project.

Partnership Report

- The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) has partnered with the City to operate a drive-thru Covid test site at Manchester Meadows on Mondays to Thursdays weekly for the immediate future.

2021 Meeting Dates (attached to official minutes)

- The commission agreed to continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 PM. Any changes to dates or times will be communicated in advance of the meeting.
- Outlook calendar notices will be sent to all commissioners.

**EXECUTIVE**

**SESSION:** None.

**ADDITIONAL**

**COMMENTS:** Commissioners applauded PRT staff for working hard to be safe for co-workers, citizens and tourists.

Rock Hill has produced a BMX National Champion. The 9 year-old has a promising future. He will be presented to City Council at an upcoming meeting.

The Rock Hill Parks Foundation granted \$25k for a brick garden refurbishment at Glencairn Garden.

**NEXT MEETING:** January 5, 2021, 6 PM location TBD

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Amanda Helms*