

PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Sports & Event Center

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Bev Carroll, John Coleman, Larry Erwin, Benny Evans, Toy Rhea, Perry Sutton, Matt Watson
ABSENT: Rene Brannan (e), Edwina Roseboro-Barnes (e)
STAFF: Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, Brian Jones, David Linder, Amanda Helms
GUESTS: Jonathan Nazir, Crystal Nazir

CITIZEN

COMMENTS: Jonathan Nazir presented on the proposed community garden at Emmett Scott at the location of the tennis courts. The overall goals of the community garden are to spearhead community redevelopment, educate all ages on the importance of agriculture and serve to provide a food source within the southern Rock Hill food desert.

MINUTES: The June 1, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

OLD

BUSINESS: Strategic Plan Update (attachment to official minutes)

- Staff highlighted elements of the new FY22-FY24 Strategic Plan approved by City Council as they relate to PRT.
- The final quarterly report for the FY19-FY21 Strategic Plan will be provided later in the month.

Master Plan Update (attachment to official minutes)

- The River Park Trail Connector Phase IV project is underway. The trail through the Northside Center property connecting the existing trail to Annafrel Street is in the planning stage. Bridge #3 replacement at Tech Park is in plan/review.
- The first phase of the Miracle Park project is nearing completion with a proposed grand opening in August. The Emmett Scott picnic shelter is completed but requires an ADA sidewalk from the parking lot. Duke Energy plans to have the park on Lake Wylie ready to turn-over to the City by January 1, 2022. The BMX track two-year project is in plan/review.
- Staff continues to wait on Habitat for Humanity for specifications and cost estimates for potential improvements at Carroll Park.
- The Sports & Event Center hosted 326 teams, 60 NCAA coaches, and 13,000 total participants in June producing an estimated \$2 million direct economic impact. In July, 560 teams are expected at the facility over a two-week period.
- Outdoor sports tourism facilities hosted 6 events in June, 212 total teams and produced an estimated \$4.3 million direct economic impact. Another 6 events with at least 425 teams are planned for July.
- The FY2021 PRT Annual report was distributed for information.

Budget FY2022 (attachment to official minutes)

- Staff reviewed the approved motion on June 28 by City Council with regard new tennis membership fees for in-York County residents and out-of-York County individuals/families.

NEW

BUSINESS: Advisory Committee Report

- The Emmett Scott Advisory Committee requests consent to move forward with signage to designate Emmett Scott as a former Rosenwald School site. Commissioner Perry requested affirmation/documentation of the Rosenwald site prior to further discussion.

- Commissioner Erwin gave a report on the June 9 Tennis Advisory Committee meeting. The committee is pleased with the new carpet in the building, resurfaced tennis courts and the new storage building. They expressed a need for shade for players waiting to use the courts. The committee would like talks to continue with the school district regarding a hitting wall. With the overflow of players at Fewell Park, the group also discussed the desire for a portable toilet at that location.
- Commissioner Rhea asked staff if tennis courts would be considered for the next regional park. Staff commented that regional park amenities will be determined with community input.

Community Outreach Report

- Northwestern High School coaches and players helped host a youth football clinic at Cherry Park which drew 155 youth.

Partnership Report

- Rec in a Box is working with the Department of Neighborhood Services and the Housing Authority to assist with events at Friedheim Park including 3-on-3 basketball and a day camp.
- A motion was made to explore a partnership with the Victory Garden International (Jonathan Nazir) for the community garden project at Emmett Scott, was seconded and approved. They asked staff to work toward a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

EXECUTIVE

SESSION: None.

ADDITIONAL

COMMENTS: Commissioner Carroll reminded staff to utilize the City's website to find information about PRT events, facilities, and program opportunities.

NEXT MEETING: August 3, 2021, Location TBD

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Helms