

**PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Tuesday, January 4, 2022**

**Sports & Event Center**

**6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Rene Brannan, Bev Carroll, Larry Erwin, Perry Sutton, Toy Rhea, Matt Watson  
**ABSENT:** John Coleman, Benny Evans  
**STAFF:** John Taylor, Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, Brian Jones, David Linder, Amanda Helms

**CITIZEN**

**COMMENTS:** None.

**STAFF**

**HIGHLIGHT:** Sean Rikard began as a seasonal concessions worker in 2020 and was hired into a Grounds Maintenance Technician at the Sports and Event Center in 2021. He enjoys cross-training and the flexibility in his job to allow him to work with a variety of co-workers.

**MINUTES:** The December 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

**OLD**

**BUSINESS:**

Strategic Plan Update

- The City Council Retreat will be held February 9, 2022. John Taylor will be covering potential new ventures for the City at the retreat.
- The PRT Department will continue researching sales for weekday tourism opportunities.

Master Plan Update

- Plans are underway for a connector to the Northside Trail which one day will link to the future Jack White Trail to link to downtown Rock Hill. The Carolina Thread Trail Foundation has granted \$30,000 for trail design in the downtown area.
- Miracle Park Phases II (City-related) and III (retail) are in the design process. The park on Lake Wylie does not have buildings on site to date; this may impact the projected turn-over date to the City. Carroll Park playground construction has started. Color renderings of the Fountain Park restrooms are in process. New swings will be added to the Glencairn Garden Shade and Water Garden this month.
- Outdoor sports facilities hosted four events in December; three events are scheduled for January. The Sports and Event Center hosted 14 days of events in December. The calendar year 2021 direct economic impact of sports tourism is estimated to be \$65.6 million (*revised*).
- Staff and commissioners discussed the future of supplemental accident insurance for amateur sports. Staff will research insurance options.
- The \$45,000 cost per pool to open for the 2022 swim season has been updated to a total of \$217,000 for all four pools to be operational. The expense may be an item of discussion at the City Council Retreat. Staff recommend negotiating a month-to-month contract with Trident (pool operator and lifeguard provider) for the 2022 swim season which is in addition to pool start-up costs.

**NEW**

**BUSINESS:**

Advisory Committee Update

- Liaison assignments and committee meeting dates for 2022 were distributed.
- To request changes to assignments, notify the Commission Chair.

Community Outreach Report

- Neighborhood and Housing Services reached out to staff at Emmett Scott and Northside for a youth bicycle distribution. Over 40 youth were served.

Partnership Report

- The Barnes Family/Comporium has made a financial donation to the Rock Hill Parks Foundation specifying dedicated uses which include landscaping at future restrooms near Fountain Park, landscaping at Glencairn Garden, trail connections in the downtown area and community recreation outreach programs.

Commission Goals and Accomplishments

- 2021 Accomplishments and 2022 Goal drafts were distributed for review.
- Votes will be taken at the February meeting.

Election of Officers

- Motions were made, seconded, and unanimously approved to reappoint Commissioner Carroll as Chair of the Commission and Toy Rhea as Vice-Chair.

**ADDITIONAL  
COMMENTS:**

- None

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION:**

- A motion was made at 6:54 to go into Executive Session to discuss privileged information.
- A motion was made 7:16 PM, seconded and approved to leave Executive Session.
- No votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Rock Hill Sports & Event Center.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Amanda Helms*