

PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Glencairn Garden Learning Center

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rene Brannan, Bev Carroll, John Coleman, Larry Erwin, Bennie Evans, Toy Rhea, Matt Watson
ABSENT: Lawrence Brown, Jacqueline Jones
STAFF: John Taylor, Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Brian Jones, David Linder, Garnet McKeown, Amanda Helms, Tammy Lizarazo, Kim Ozmon
GUEST: Bakari Rawlinson

CITIZEN

COMMENTS: Bakari Rawlinson of local JUCO Football addressed Commission regarding a request for safe practice fields for his teams. He noted that only two first-come first-serve fields have lights. Mr. Rawlinson stated that he rents the Rock Hill School District Stadium for games.

Commissioners discussed that premium fields are available for rent upon proof of insurance. PRT staff will follow-up with Mr. Rawlinson.

STAFF

HIGHLIGHT: Tammy Lizarazo serves as a customer service representative at the Rock Hill Tennis Center. She enjoys working with the membership, preparing the monthly newsletter, and assisting with clinics and tournaments.

MINUTES: The meeting minutes from September 6, 2022, were approved.

OLD

BUSINESS: Strategic Plan Update

- Community discussion is underway for the regional park which will stretch from Heckle Boulevard to downtown Rock Hill. Architect Michael Allen has met with staff and conducted an introductory meeting with 40 community leaders. The goal is to plan in 2023, begin construction in 2024, issue bonds in 2025 and complete main components of the regional park section in 2026. The final park is expected to be approximately 130 acres.
- Commissioner Carroll asked that commissioners listen to the public response and to bring any concerns back to the commission.

Master Plan Update (attachment to official minutes)

- Trail bridge #4 remains on order for the Tech Park Trail.
- The prefabricated restroom for Fountain Park was delivered to the site in September.
- The State of SC has signed an agreement to start design for the Northside Trail extension along Dave Lyle Boulevard.
- The lease agreement for Rock Hill Park (Duke Energy) on Lake Wylie has gone back to the attorneys due to lake bank erosion and swimming area depth issues.
- Tennis courts at Fewell Park and Confederate Park will be resurfaced in October.
- A public announcement system has been installed at Miracle Park. Construction for Phase II of Miracle Park has been delayed due to fundraising needs and current construction costs.
- The direct economic impact of PRT-generated tourism events was \$2.6 million in September.
- Commissioners reviewed the PRT Advocacy document for discussion with City Council.

NEW

BUSINESS: Advisory Committee Report

- No report.

Program Review

- Fall sports registration has rebounded from the 2020 Covid-impacted 780 youth to 2022's registration count at 1,750.
- Growth in recreational soccer has impacted parking at Manchester Meadows and the need for more coaches. Staff will monitor and make recommendations to ease the growth stress.
- Staff member Andrea Barnette has developed a well-received course for workforce development in correlation with Human Resources.

Facility Review (attachment to official minutes)

- Rental fees for the majority of PRT facilities are under review for update.
- Acknowledging the years of issues and vandalism with the Confederate Park restrooms, Commissioner Erwin made a motion to remove/demolish the restrooms at the Confederate Park shelter. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Community Outreach Report

- Tennis Center staff did an outstanding job hosting a tennis clinic on Miracle Field for the therapeutic program community. Noting the success, more clinics will be scheduled.

Partnership Report

- The SC Sports Alliance helps Rock Hill make a bigger impact at national sports trade shows and conferences. The Alliance benefits a state-wide effort to connect sports rights holders to communities with the best fit for them. The concept of a regional alliance is now a national trend.

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION:**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Evans, seconded, and approved at 7:18 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss privileged information.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Brannan, seconded, and approved to leave Executive Session at 7:28 PM
- No votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

**ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS:**

None.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 6:00 PM at Glencairn Garden.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Helms