

# LEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

## COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012

### MINUTES

The Lee County Parks and Recreation Commission met Monday, April 23, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center.

Members present: Harry Stryffeler, James Emerson, Chairman Butch Saunders, Edgar Underwood, Commissioner Ed Paschal and Councilman Poly Cohen.

Also present: John Payne, Parks and Recreation Director and Deborah Carroll, Secretary.  
Absent members: Nicole Ingram, Rhea Monti, Jamie Norton and Mark Kline.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Call to order: Butch Saunders

Seconded: Harry Stryffeler

All favor

Time: 5:32 p.m.

#### **I. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None

#### **II. OLD BUSINESS**

##### Establish Fees & Charges

Mr. Payne went through proposed fees & charges package that was mailed to members to emphasize which fees were increased and which stayed the same price. Mr. Underwood wanted to know if the new fees and charges represent what it costs the Parks and Recreation Commission to provide these services. Mr. Payne said last year the county manager instructed him to do any raises in increments instead of all at one time. Harry Stryffeler asked for an example of how it would work. Mr. Payne said football was discussed last month and gave example of dance. He said fees cover payment of the instructor but participants must buy their own costumes for recital. We own the building and charge no rent in the registration fee. Tiny Tots in Broadway and gymnastics are in a rental building so some of the fee is included to the cover cost. The fee increase would cover the cost of hiring the part time instructor to full time as the gymnastics supervisor has 30 plus years in with the county and may soon retire. The extra cost would cover the cost of the new position's health insurance and retirement. Youth dance and Tiny Tots will both go up \$4.00.

Families with more than one child enrolled at the same time, the same session and residing in the same household would pay a reduced cost of \$5.00 for each additional child.

There were no changes in prices to the adult programs. The football program went up \$4.00 and the \$5.00 discount is effective the same as other programs for additional children enrolled at the same time.

Mr. Payne said the sports part of the recreation program has shown a decrease in numbers. He said that recruiting is done at tournaments, not in high school now so parents are pushing kids to start early. Mr. Stryffeler spoke about enrolling kids in sports years ago in middle and high school, but now they are enrolled in T-Ball at 3 years old and said they would be burnt out by high school.

Swim lessons were increased to \$4.00 but admission remained at \$3.00 for a daily pass from 1-5pm Tuesday through Sunday. There are 69 days for public swim through the summer. General Services repaired the dive tank through the closed season. All plumbing has been fixed. They also worked on the swim tank this week and repaired 5 leaks.

All outside camps that charge a fee when using the Parks and Recreation facilities are charged 25% of their fee for facility use.

Numerous changes were made to the policy for persons using the public resources as business enterprises. Local groups renting ball fields for practice will maintain the \$10 per hour fee. Non-county residents will pay \$20 per hour. Light usage will be \$10 per hour on fields with the exception of field #2 at Tramway, which will be \$15 per hour. Fields 1, 3 and 4 at Tramway Road Parks will rent out for all day tournaments at a cost of \$125.00 daily plus \$10 per hour for lights. Field 2, the varsity field, will rent for \$200.00 daily plus \$15 per hour for lights. Costs were put in for field preparation, marking lines for initial games or any additional markings between games markings. This cost did not include a field supervisor.

Tournaments run at the schools can no longer be booked through the Parks and Recreation Dept. It must be done through the schools' main office. We will still run tournaments at the Armory and Wicker gyms but will be charging \$35.00 an hour for weekend bookings. Local residents may book through us for \$20.00 per hour with less than 20 people in attendance.

Board members spoke about the need for a softball/soccer complex in the Lee Co. area with 8-10 fields so football or soccer could be played on alternating fields on weekends. This would rest the fields not used to keep damage at a minimum. Board members talked of other area fields and their charges, hotel sponsorship and tournament sponsorships. They also spoke of fields being used locally, such as Kiwanis, Temple and the Kendale area, without reservations for soccer daily and each weekend and the damage being done. John spoke of damage done at Kiwanis Family Park specifically where the louvers have been crushed from soccer balls hitting the restroom building. He said only putting boulders in the area could stop the playing. Mr. Sanders spoke of damage at Temple ball field from daily use with cleats playing soccer. Mr. Stryffeler spoke of the school fields being used without permission on the weekends and

how the local police do not have the manpower to keep running people off of the premises. Members spoke of different areas around the county and surrounding counties having weekend soccer tournaments. Mr. Emerson spoke of the Kendale area being used and how clean it was afterwards. Mr. Stryffeler said kids playing games were not out doing crimes.

Mr. Payne said prices went up by \$25 for non-residents on the Ingram building rental because of the demand from outside county residents. He said the family campgrounds at San-Lee Park also went up to \$15 and RV campground to \$20. Mr. Underwood wanted to be sure if the campgrounds included electricity.

Move was made by Mr. Sanders to accept the raising of rate fees.

Seconded by: Mr. Underwood

All in favor.

Time 6:14pm

Mr. Payne said new rates would generate about \$18,000.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

### **V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Payne passed out papers concerning a meeting he would be having with Maurice Waddell. Mr. Waddell will be having a football program for 18-25 year old young men to get them into going back to school for GEDs, going on for an associate's degree, working towards employment and going in a positive direction. Mr. Waddell has met with Sheriff Carter for his support in the program. John Payne said Dennis Abell had Open Play Tennis at O.T. Sloan Tennis Center last Tuesday night with about a half dozen people coming to it. The Open Play will be an ongoing event every Tuesday from 6-8pm.

Mr. Payne put in a purchase order for the Buchanan restroom project for \$19,900. It was value engineered from \$36,200 down to \$19,900. The storage area was eliminated to decrease the size, painted block will be used instead of brick veneer and a concrete walk in front of the doors was eliminated. A new sewer tap for \$1250 will be needed.

San-Lee Park Festival was a big success. The department partnered with Christian Provision Ministries for transportation with their new vans and two drivers all day, with over 1,100 people showing up. The drivers were very helpful with the passengers, greeting people, helping them on the vans and storing strollers for the mothers. Mr. Payne wrote Bishop Mellette a letter of appreciation.

Don Otte received two volunteer awards, one locally and one of twenty across the state to receive the Governor's Medallion Award for Volunteers from Beverly Perdue in Raleigh, which John Payne attended. Each county had a representative

at the meeting. Ms. Perdue has been a big support for the Parks & Recreation departments. Mr. Otte has worked hard on the mountain bike trail at San-Lee Park which now brings riders from hours away.

Mr. Stryffeler got information concerning the Camelback Bridge park area. He said a consultant must be paid to check if the bridge is sound, as it is privately held. He said one option was that it could possibly be done through a state civil engineer from NC State as a class project, as a consultant would cost at least \$1,500-2,000. The project could not be brought before the Board of Commissioners until facts were able to be presented. Mr. Payne said this is the way we partner with the Wildlife Resource Commission at San-Lee. They are delivering the boat docks to the park tomorrow and installing them by next week. The docks were done with an informal bid to them as the Wildlife Resource Commission could not compete with the market place.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by: Butch Saunders

Seconded by: Ed Underwood

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at: 6:29pm

  
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Butch Saunders, Chairman  
Lee County Parks & Recreation Commission

  
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Deborah Carroll, Secretary