

# LEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

## COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2014

### MINUTES

The Lee County Parks and Recreation Commission met Monday, August 25, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center.

Members present were Bill Oberkirsch, Chad Spivey, Liz Kovasckitz, James Emerson and Harry Stryffeler, Co-Chair.

Also present were John Payne, Director, Debbie Carroll, secretary, Bill Shuey, athletic supervisor.

Absent members were Mark Kline, Nicole Ingram, Eric Davidson, Ed Underwood and Commissioner Ricky Frazier.

Guest speaker was Bob Joyce with the Sanford Chamber of Commerce.

The 14U SWAC All Star State Champion girls' softball team and coaches were present for awards and proclamation.

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

Meeting called to order at 5:34 and motion for approval or changes of minutes by Harry Stryffeler.

#### **II. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made for approval of agenda and minutes by Chad Spivey.  
Seconded by Liz Kovasckitz.  
Approved by all.

#### **III. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Public comments were made by Mr. Bob Joyce, with Sanford Chamber of Commerce. He thanked members for their service to the Parks and Recreation board. Mr. Joyce said programs and policies adopted here affect the business community. He said the O.T. Sloan project will be an opportunity for growth in the Sanford and Lee County business community and the Chamber was in support of the project.

Public comments will be added with the Petitions and Communications section for any public responses to the Board next month.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. Update O.T. Sloan Park Project**

The Sloan project will have a good economic impact on Lee Co. The response from the feasibility study was positive and people love to travel. The key is building something large enough to begin with to house soccer tournaments, lacrosse, baseball and softball tournaments, hockey, volleyball and all other sports. Parents are traveling with their children to other cities for tournaments and we want to keep them here and bring others to us. John said our recreation numbers are down but travel team numbers are up.

The last presentation will be tomorrow, then a scoring matrix will be done to determine what recommendation to make.

##### **B. Update Horton Park Project**

The county manager's son, who is in Boy Scouts, has a project to replace the roofs on the dugouts on the baseball fields at Horton. John spoke with Susan Condlin, County Extension Director, about the Lowes "Keep America Beautiful" grant project for any updates but the decision has been delayed because of so many requests that were made.

Liz Kovaschitz asked about programs that would have required community service that may help. Mr. Payne explained that things usually didn't work out well with that, as it required a lot of time coordination and someone had to be onsite at all times when it was done. He spoke of a cleaning program done at Tramway Road Park fields with some of Southern Lee High School's disabled kids. The school's teacher said it helps teach the kids responsibility. It is a periodic program and they provide the supervision.

Members discussed the fencing, handicapped parking spaces, handicap access to the playground and the basketball court. John said most of the upgrades depend on the Keep America Beautiful grant which was for \$10-12 thousand dollars.

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Consider Possible Agreement with LCTA For Youth Junior League Tennis Program**

John Payne, Mary Tatum and Dana Atkins met to discuss the revival of the Tennis Association. They want to begin a tennis program at the Sloan Tennis courts. Fees would run \$65-\$95 for lessons. John wants the Tennis Association to still do Play Dates, so those that can't afford the higher costs would be charged the original \$10 or be free.

Mr. Stryffeler asked how renovations would affect the tennis programs, because of parking. He would like it reflected in the Tennis Association agreement. Mr. Payne said one of the initial models suggested moving the courts to where the ball fields currently are. The use of schools' tennis courts may also be utilized.

Members discussed the tennis programs, and different areas of the agreement. They want the fee kept low to be able to expose kids to tennis at an early age versus high school. John said the programs would probably begin in the spring.

Liz Kovasckitz made a motion to accept the agreement.  
Harry Stryffeler seconded the motion.  
All approved.

- B. Recognize U-14 Girls' Softball SWAC State Champions with proclamation  
Mr. Stryffeler read the resolution for the 14U State All-Stars Girls' team and coaches, naming each of the girls included on the team.  
Bill Shuey, Parks & Recreation athletic supervisor over the girls' softball teams, gave each a trophy, and pictures were taken.  
John Payne presented a proclamation to each girl and coach.  
Awards were given to volunteers that helped.  
An MVP award was presented by Bill Shuey to Bernica Brown.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
None

**VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
Members discussed the pricing on facility rentals on complexes for tournaments, pricing at the gate, concessions, field lights and outside vendors.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**  
Motion made to adjourn at 6:28pm by James Emerson.  
Seconded by Bill Oberkirsch.  
All were in favor.

  
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Harry Stryffeler, Co-Chair  
Lee County Parks & Recreation Commission

  
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Debbie Carroll, Secretary