

**LEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**

**COMMISSION MEETING**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2013**

**MINUTES**

The Lee County Parks and Recreation Commission met Monday, January 28, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center.

Members present were: Mark Kline, Co-Chair, Councilman Poly Cohen (ex-officio Non-voting), Commissioner Ricky Frazier (Lee Co. liaison), James Emerson, Ed Underwood and Harry Stryffeler.

Also present were John Payne, Parks and Recreation Director and Deborah Carroll, Secretary

Absent members were: Butch Saunders, Nicole Ingram, Eric Davidson and Rhea Monti.

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:37p.m. by Mark Kline, motion for approval of minutes by James Emerson  
Seconded by Harry Stryffeler  
All approved.

**II. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Horton Park Plans Update

A vendor copy of the approved purchase order was forwarded to Dave Gipe, of Dave Gipe and Associates. It is a 30 day process to work up overall plans for pool area, playground, courts, shelter and walking trail.

Members talked about the present pool bed issues, cost of maintenance and upkeep, building a new skate park and possible timeline. Mr. Payne will have more information for the proposals when the plans come back from Mr. Gipe. Commissioner Frazier requested a drawing or plan of the proposed plans for Horton.

B. Dog Park Project Update

Some area residents are willing to commit money to contribute to the building of a dog park. There will be a meeting at the Parks & Recreation office on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. to speak with some of the contributors. The park

would still be located at the Kiwanis Family Park. Mr. Kline said he would get the word out to the public about the meeting.

Members spoke of funding needed of more than \$10,000 and taking the issue back to the county commissioners to present to them how much the public wants a dog park. They spoke of the safety and health issues, dog control laws and other information pertaining to the proposed park. Commissioner Frazier questioned Mr. Payne about past information concerning the December meeting with the county commissioners. He asked questions concerning safety and aggressiveness and about the Horton Park finances. Members discussed safety and health issues, dog control laws and other information pertaining to the proposed park.

C. City of Sanford PARTF grant application update

Mr. Payne told members he spoke with David Montgomery with Downtown Sanford today. Mr. Montgomery was to be in a meeting concerning the grant application today putting in the final touches, 5:00p.m.at the Lee Co. Library. The county owns the land that will be used in the extension building of the greenway, known as the “Medical Mile”, that will run from Wicker Street to the area across from Central Carolina Hospital. Councilman Poly Cohen said the city had already approved the project.

Members spoke of the designated bike route that extends from Firetower Road down Hickory House Rd. Mr. Payne said there was too much traffic at that area now for it to be used and when the DOT did more improvements in the area, it may be incorporated into the plans.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Departmental Adverse Weather Plan

John Payne said a weather plan had not been voted in for cases of extreme heat, lightning, snow or ice, even though the department had been using one for the children’s protection through the years. He said the adverse weather plan was similar to the schools’ plans of delays and cancellations. Co-chair Mr. Kline made a motion for approval, Mr. Stryffeler seconded it and all favored the approval.

Mr. Emerson praised Mr. Payne on the plans he had been using in the past to protect the children and staff with adverse weather conditions. He said he made it a personal requirement that parents had to be there for their children’s T-Ball practice and games. Members talked of the emphasis to have parents stay at the practices and games if there was a potential for bad weather instead of just dropping them off and coming back later, because of liability issues.

**B. Tournaments & Special Events By Outside Groups**

Mr. Payne said Tramway Road Park was booked solid this year. He spoke of the need to increase the fees of tournament rentals to offset the need for maintenance of the fields and the need to hire a part-time staff person to help out during the tournaments. The smaller fields rent at \$125 per day and would need to be set at \$150. The large field is at \$200 now and would need to be increased to \$250. He said this would include the part-time staff person in the fee.

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Payne told members of the many upcoming events that were booked during the last two months such as travel team soccer games. He said Beady Waddell had booked another Youth Football Camp working with former college and pro football players that help with older youth that may not have the positive influence of a role model in their lives. They work with the youth that have fallen through the cracks to help them finish school at CCC and get jobs.

Commissioner Frazier spoke with John about the totals of the basketball teams, having a total of 10 adult teams and 53 youth teams. Mr. Payne told members of the gymnastics totals of over 500 kids, with this being an Olympic year. Mr. Frazier said the word needs to get out of the need for a complex and accommodations for large groups to bring people into the Sanford area. Members talked of the tournaments and gym competitions filling up the local hotels and restaurants and said it was time to expand.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:35p.m. by Harry Stryffeler

Seconded by Mark Kline

All in favor



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Mark Kline, Co-Chair  
Lee County Parks & Recreation Commission



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Debbie Carroll, Secretary