

**LEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**

**COMMISSION MEETING**

**MONDAY, JULY 28, 2014**

**MINUTES**

The Lee County Parks and Recreation Commission met Monday, July 28, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center.

Members present were Mark Kline, James Emerson, Chad Spivey, Ed Underwood, Commissioner Ricky Frazier, Harry Stryffeler, and new members Bill Oberkirsch and Elizabeth Kovasckitz.

Also present were John Payne, Director, Debbie Carroll, secretary, and Gaynell Lee, Clerk to the Board.

Absent members were Nicole Ingram and Eric Davidson.

**I. INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

All members, present and new, of the Parks & Recreation Commission Board were sworn in by Gaynell Lee before the meeting began at 5:30 pm. New board members, Bill Oberkirsch and Elizabeth Kovasckitz, were welcomed to the Parks & Recreation Board.

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm and motion for approval of minutes from May 27, 2014 and June 23, 2014 by Mark Kline. Call was made for any changes to this month's minutes or agenda. There were none.

**III. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion for approval of agenda and minutes was made by Ricky Frazier. Seconded by Ed Underwood. Approved by all.

**IV. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. KAB/Lowe's grant follow-up**

Mr. Payne said the Cooperative Extension, which applied for the improvement grant at Horton Park, has not had a response as of this time.

Members discussed some of the projects to be done at Horton Park with the grant.

**B. Bark for Your Park contest update**

The contest is in the dark phase now and we are not able to see what is going on.

The leader in our division was caught "bot" or robot voting and they got assessed a 30,000 vote reduction. A letter was written to PetSafe to try to get them eliminated.

The last count that was tallied put Lee Co. at 30,000 votes.

**C. NC State Research Study Grant**

John wrote a thank you letter to Jason Bacaro, associate professor at N.C. State, who is working on a grant on how communities may benefit from health and wellness through partnerships. This would include schools, parks & recreation, health departments, etc. to make public facilities more available for usage by choosing healthy lifestyle options to fight obesity, diabetes, and have healthy nutrition. Our department will be included in the proposed project to increase more opportunities for an active lifestyle.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion of policy regarding special events**

Parks & Recreation department gets hammered with requests for 5K and 10K runs, baseball and basketball tournaments and other benefit events from local groups and out of town groups wanting to use the facilities at a discounted rate or free. John wants a Fees & Charges committee to revisit the policy, with the parks increased usage demands, about raising fees as we are vastly undercharging groups. He would like the committee to be specific with wording on non-profit and for-profit events and what their requirements would be for rentals to develop a pricing matrix. John made a suggestion of using some of the money that for-profits pay for a scholarship program for local children that can't afford to play sports in our department, and private camps to have to provide proof of insurance.

Members discussed some of the different reservation scenarios and costs.

Mark Kline, Harry Stryffeler and Bill Oberkirsch said they would help gather information for a Fees & Charges committee by doing some background research on other counties. Members discussed different areas to look into for the research

No motion was needed for the research and to form a committee.

**VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Payne went to a joint meeting with the City of Sanford on July 24, 2014, targeting 16-24 year old males, trying to get positive things happening for them. They will meet again on August 7<sup>th</sup> to talk about things that they can do and talk about various group rally activities coming in the future for this age group to try raise awareness for them to not enter into gang activity because of not having anything to do or an safe place to be. Boxing and wrestling are examples given by the police department that volunteers would like to do with the youths.

John meets with city and county staff tomorrow to review the RFQ's for O.T. Sloan Park.

Members discussed some of the recent trespassing and vandalism issues that have come up with Sloan pool, and some of the solutions that have been implemented to help catch the intruders.

John talked of the things going on for the busy summer, such as camps, rentals, different programs, and a college intern named Billy Kelly that wants to do an internship this fall in the sports management area. He said Billy's internship would fit in well with the upcoming weekend tournaments and games scheduled this year.

Commissioner Frazier spoke with John concerning a food vendor selling from the trunk of a car at Kiwanis and an ice cream truck selling there, also.

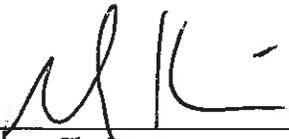
An updated phone list with the office's new extensions was passed out at the meeting. The office's main number remains the same.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 6:20 pm by Harry Stryffeler

Seconded by Ricky Frazier

All were in favor



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Mark Kline, Chairman  
Lee County Parks & Recreation Commission



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Debbie Carroll, Secretary