

LEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014

MINUTES

The Lee County Parks and Recreation Commission met Monday, October 27, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room at the Lee County Government Center.

Members present were James Emerson, Chad Spivey, Ed Underwood, Bill Oberkirsch, Commissioner Ricky Frazier and Liz Kovasckitz

Also present were John Payne, Director and Debbie Carroll, secretary

Absent members were Mark Kline, Harry Stryffeler, Eric Davidson and Nicole Ingram

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. and motion for approval of minutes by James Emerson.

Approval of minutes made by Ricky Frazier, seconded by Ed Underwood, unanimously approved.

II. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of agenda call made by Ricky Frazier, seconded by Bill Oberkirsch, unanimously approved.

III. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Public Comments)

None.

Mr. Payne explained the addition of compliance to the board with the sign in sheet and public comments, and the need for a vote of approval from the board if a member knows ahead of time if they must leave early, if they are a part of the quorum. It was explained that if a member leaves early without approval and a vote is cast, it is automatic approval on that member's vote because there is still a quorum.

It was also explained that if there is not a quorum with voting members, the first or second alternate may cast votes in any spot needed. The Board of Commissioners may choose to move an alternate into a board position when there is a vacancy.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update O.T. Sloan Park Project

Sanford City Council will have their meeting this Wednesday at which the recommended feasibility study firm will do a presentation. Voting will be done on the presentation results at the next Council meeting, as the study firm said the cost would be an additional \$15,000. The study will be more in-depth to make sure of the surrounding competition and market for what is truly needed before anything on the project would begin.

B. Update Horton Park Project

Laura Spivey, Administrator with the City of Sanford, Crystal McIver, with the Peace & Unity Garden, and Kim Tungate, Cooperative Extension agent are working with John on a \$40,000 grant application to Scott's Miracle Grow, that would be spread out over 3 years. The first year would be for \$25,000, and years two and three would be for \$7,500 each. Part of the grant money would go to building a bridge across the creek to tie in Horton Park to the Peace & Unity Garden, which is on Horton's boundary line.

Members discussed the draft budget John passed out with a breakdown of where monies would be distributed if the grant is approved. Of interest was tree removal, select and clear cut, and expenses for stump removal. Fencing was also discussed, as it would be needed for handicap basketball playing.

Ricky Frazier made a move for vote of approval for Ed Underwood's early departure at 5:50 p.m.

Move was seconded by Bill Oberkirsch, and approved by all.

Members continued discussion on the grant draft. Questions were raised about lighting at Horton, of which there will be none. Mr. Payne explained the difference and cost of timer-controlled lighting versus regular lighting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation Dixie Youth Baseball/Softball Affiliation

Presentation not available at this time, as attendance for a quorum was in doubt. It will be on next month's agenda.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

John Payne will follow up with Mark Kline and Harry Stryffeler on committees they were forming, as they were both absent.

John talked about company picnics and complaints from the mountain bike riders that use the trails at San-Lee Park every weekend. Parks & Recreation hosts two to four company picnics per year at either O.T. Sloan Park or San-Lee Park. When a business rents one of them, it is closed to the public and only the company employees and their families are able to use the park. Notices are posted, sent to the newspapers, and announced on the radio locally

one to two weeks in advance of the park's closing. Some of the bike riders come from as far away as 200 miles to use San-Lee Park, and do not receive notice of the closing. They do not pay anything towards the use of the park for their riding. Many do not realize that San-Lee is not a state park, but a county-run park.

Members discussed the options of our Lee Co. website having a calendar, emails to some of the biking websites, and emails to Mr. Don Otte, so he may forward it to known groups that may be coming. They also discussed parking for local paying groups that rent on a regular basis and have nowhere to park because of the mountain bikers. The regular renters are upset because they paid money to rent the San-Lee Park facilities and their family and friends may not have parking room. The possibility of charging per car for the bikers, having passes for regular renters, and donation boxes were discussed.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

John told members we were taking basketball registrations, gymnastic registrations were soon, talked about ongoing art class and their upcoming art show, and spoke of the Brush and Palette Show going on at the Bob Hales Center (old Armory).

Members talked about lighting at the Tennis Courts, both at O.T. Sloan and Kiwanis Children's Parkplace. John said Children's Parkplace lights have timers on them but Sloan does not. Sloan has signage of "Dawn to Dusk unless authorized by the Department" and "No soccer, bikes, or skate boards" but there are still problems. They also talked of ball field lighting and its expense, activity at other parks, their signage and how to curb activity after dark.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:22 p.m. by Ricky Frazier

Seconded by Bill Oberkirsch

All were in favor

 , Acting Chair
Lee County Parks & Recreation Commission


Debbie Carroll, Secretary