

MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 9, 2015
COUNCIL BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leo Bell, Jr. (Vice-Chairperson)
Reginald Hurd
Don Johnson (Chairperson)
Roderick Lee
Alexander McLachlan
Ed Priest
Eugenia Rodgers

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bart Stevenson, Staff Liaison; Timothy Hamilton, Parks Superintendent, Recording Secretary Pam Willis and Kamecha Johnston, Park Ranger were City staff members in attendance.

Chairperson Johnson noted that there was a quorum present and began the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Item #1 – Public Discussion Period:

No one was present to speak during the public discussion period.

Item #2 – Discussion and Consider Approval of Minutes:

Vice-Chair Bell made a motion for the September 21, 2015 minutes be approved as written; a second was made by Board member Priest. A vote was taken with 7 For; and 0 Against. All Board members were present for the cast of the vote. Vice-Chair Bell made a motion for the motion for the October 8, 2015. Board member McLachlan requested that the minutes be changed to reflect that the reason they were not available was because the recording secretary was not at that meeting instead of what was written. Recording Secretary said that she would make the change. Mr. McLachlan said that we would now vote. A second motion was made by Board member Priest. A vote was taken with 7 For; and 0 Against. All Board members were present for the cast of the vote.

Item #3 – Staff Reports:

- A. **Park Ranger Report** – Chair Johnson asked Officer Johnston to give her report. She reported that there were 20 stops. There were 23 violations that included 17 curfew violations; 1 DWLI (Driving While License Invalid); 3 failures to display DL; 1 motor vehicle in park and 1 run stop sign. She also reported that there were 276 directed patrols; 2 welfare checks; 1 meet complainant; and 1 community action request. Assists were made with 1 community action request and 2 DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) / major accident.
- B. **Upcoming Events and Programs** – Staff Liaison Stevenson informed the Board that Boo Bash – The Haunted Carnival was a huge success and possibly doubled numbers from last year. On November 20, 2015 the film "Freebirds" will be shown as the "Movie in the Park". He also informed them that Thanksgiving Camp would be the week of 23-25 and including Friday 27th. The last event upcoming is the Christmas Parade and Christmas Tree Lighting on December 4, 2015. There will be floats, children's choirs and vendors. It will be a great time in Duncanville for family time.
- C. **Update on FY16 Capital Projects** – Staff Liaison Stevenson announced that three (3) parks would be receiving playground upgrades: Lakeside, Harrington and Willow Run. Discussion began regarding the barbeque pits (BBQ) throughout the park system if there were any way to get them all standard. It was pointed out that the BBQ pit at Redbird Park needed to be replaced. Mr. Stevenson asked the Board to think of sponsors that the Board could use as sponsorships to possibly get some of these items replaced. Vice Chair Bell commented that he had heard that community service had been canceled by the Duncanville High School; that it was no longer a requirement for students to perform community service for graduating credits. Mr. Stevenson acknowledged that he had not heard anything about that, but would check into it before the next meeting.

Item #4 – Discuss the Maintenance of the Senior Center:

Board member Priest began discussion on the maintenance of the Senior Center. He commented that the Center needed to be painted; the floors looked awful and the closets that he saw were fully packed and looked like a safety hazard to him. Mr. Stevenson addressed the Board by telling them that some of the issues had already been addressed. The floors are cleaned twice a year and had just been done at the end of October. The closets had been cleaned out and de-cluttered. The office area had a new T.V. installed as well as cable to run advertisements on. Painting of the building would most likely happen in the spring or summer depending on cost. Mr. Stevenson also announced that the Senior Center would be receiving new furniture in the near future. The 48" tables in Parkview Room would be changed out to 60" tables and the chairs would be cushioned not the hard plastic type. Board member Rodgers inquired on how many lunches are served at the Senior Center. Mr. Stevenson replied that between 60 – 75 lunches are served on a daily basis. Board member Hurd inquired on exercise equipment. He wondered if the seniors really used the exercise equipment at the recreation center. Mr. Stevenson noted that it seems that most seniors exercise in the morning hours. Mr. Stevenson reassured the Board that any issues regarding the Senior Center are usually handled as soon as possible; however, suggestions are always welcome to enhance the Center.

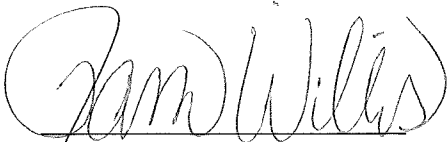
Item #5 – Discuss Boxing Program at the Duncanville Fieldhouse:

Staff Liaison Stevenson turned the discussion over to Board member Priest and Vice-Chair Bell. Mr. Bell explained to the Board that in the basement of the Duncanville Fieldhouse there is a boxing program that he did not know existed. Vice-Chair Bell suggested to the Board that they find some funding for this program. The program is in need of several things including some items added to the basement. Board member Lee asked Mr. Stevenson what the process for the City to accept donations for the boxing program. Mr. Stevenson replied that he was not sure of the process and would need to ask the Finance Department how donations for a specific program worked. Board member Priest commented that he had watched some of the sparing matches and that the ones that he watched were really good; however, he continued that the room was crowded and that they need more room. He also suggested that the rent was too high and possibly lower it for them. Vice-Chair Bell and Board member Priest suggested that the City try to better this program by getting them some better equipment; lowering their rent and updating the basement where they work out. Board member Priest told the Board to try to keep up the theme of "City of Champions" with boxing.

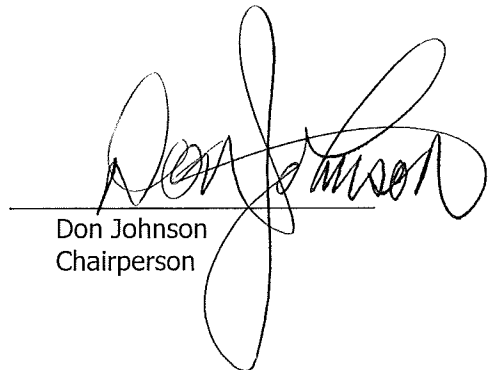
Item #6 – Discuss the Process for the Update of the Park Master Plan:

Staff Liaison Stevenson announced to the Board that he would be working with the new City Planner, Chasidy Allen, for the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Allen is involved in creating a Comprehensive Plan Steering Commission consisting of twelve (12) people who are engaged in the community. After the City's Comprehensive Plan is completed then an RFP for a consultant to aid in the Park Master Plan will be put out to get that process started. According to Mr. Stevenson, this will be several months down the line.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. unanimously.



Pam Willis
Recording Secretary



Don Johnson
Chairperson