

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 12th, 2019, 12pm, AAC

In attendance: Jeff Donaldson, Terry Maybin, Ralph King, Katie Breckheimer, Jennifer Hensley, Corum Smith, Hunter Marks, Phillip Ellis, and Stephanie Cantwell.

Staff in attendance: Carleen Dixon, Casey Conner, Bridgette Galloway, and Erin Hendrix

Speakers in attendance: Betsy Gerwig

Call to Order: 12:08pm

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve October minutes was made by Terry, seconded by Jenn and unanimously approved.

Public Input: None

New Business:

New Board Members – Welcome

Jeff and Carleen take the opportunity to welcome one of the new board members, Stephanie Cantwell, to the Recreation Advisory Board. Carleen also congratulates Jennifer Hensley on her newly-appointed role on the Hendersonville City Council and announces that she will be stepping down from this role.

Member Gifts – Erin Hendrix

Erin Thanks the Recreation Advisory Board members for their support and service and offers each a gift in appreciation.

Field Allocation Policy – Carleen Dixon

Carleen shows the board a draft policy for allocation priorities of field space. As the department grows and becomes more popular, there needs to be clear guidelines on who is prioritized in scheduling our parks and fields. This policy is almost completed and will be completed and in use prior to our January meeting. Carleen asked for feedback or concerns to be addressed today. Support was shown for the policy by the board and the Department will start utilizing it in December.

Edneyville Community Center – River Restoration/Mitigation Project

Betsy Gerwig gave the board some information on what the river mitigation would look like should the Army Corps of Engineers recommend this section for restoration. The river itself would need to be moved onto County property as the project requires one owner and the adjacent property owners would receive right-of-way for continued river

access. Phillip expresses concern over the property lines. Beth assures the board that all property owners would be talked to one-on-one and before any action was taken. The project itself would benefit the owners in decreasing erosion and land loss and would also present opportunities for interpretive education and better water access for residents. Katie makes a motion to accept the river restoration as proposed. Jenn Seconds this motion. Phillip objects. All other board members approve.

Special Event Guide and Application – Carleen Dixon

Carleen previews the special event guide and application, though it is not completed. As the department grows, this will be an important piece to help govern practices and fees for larger events and reservations. The board showed support for this step in improving Special Event process for the Department.

Old Business:

Halloween Event Report – Bridgette Galloway

Bridgette gives the board an overview of the Halloween event. Over 10,000 people in attendance with numerous partners and sponsors for the event. The event was well-received and all had fun. Katie asks if the sponsors were monetary or in-kind. Bridgette answers that they were all in-kind. Jenn asks about funding for the event and who paid for it. Bridgette answers that the city, county, and Hola Carolina all had separate events in the past and that they have just combined resources.

Hola Community Arts – Carleen Dixon

The lease agreement with Hola Carolina has been officially approved and they have started moving into the Jackson Park House and have begun renovations. All agree that this is a positive event for Parks and Recreation and are excited to see what the future holds.

P&R Comprehensive Plan – Carleen Dixon

The Comprehensive Plan survey has been approved and will be mailed out within a couple of weeks. Katie asks who will receive the survey and Carleen reminds the board that this is a statistically valid survey that will be sent out to a representative number of people in different areas and of different demographics. After the statistically valid survey has received enough responses, the survey will be opened up to all online for whomever wishes to complete it.

East Flat Rock Park – Carleen Dixon

Carleen lets the board know that DOT has come out to East Flat Rock and removed the burning bushes against the road along the fence as these had become of concern. We will continue to work on this park and keep visibility and aesthetic value in mind.

Staff Updates:

Parks Update – Jason Kilgore

This time of year is when the fields begin to have work done and get them recovered and growing for the next season. We will also start closing some of the remote bathrooms and wrapping things up for the winter.

Recreation Update – Casey Conner

The Recreation Program Guide will be coming out at the beginning of December, we are starting to form teams for youth basketball, and we will also have an adult basketball league starting sign ups in January. Bridgette has started working on New Year's Eve and Daddy Daughter Dance preparations.

Member Comments:

Katie asks what the next step is for greenways since PARTF was not approved this year. Carleen states that we will continue to apply for PARTF if the Board of Commissions direct us to do this, but that we are up against hundreds of other applications. The next best thing is for the Advisory Board to make their voice heard to the Board of Commissioners. Katie ask where it is on the priority list for budget requests. Carleen answers that greenways was not included in the Parks and Recreation 4-year budget plan because it was in the PARTF process when the budget was completed. Jenn suggests partnering with the city to seek funding for greenways. Phillip would like to add greenway restoration to the 4-year budget requests. There is a discussion on the 4-year plan, what is included, and how priority of order was determined. The board discusses writing a letter requesting priority be given to greenway funding. Ultimately, all agree to pursue this interest though other avenues and wish to request that funding be added to the 4-year budget for greenway restoration but a formal motion was not made.

Motions:

Terry makes a motion to approve minutes from October. Jenn seconds and all approve. Katie makes a motion to accept the river mitigation project. Jenn seconds, Phillip opposes. All others approve motion.

Call to Adjourn: 1:14pm