

## **Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**

Tuesday June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 12pm, Dana Community Building

**In attendance:** Ralph King, Jeff Donaldson, Terry Maybin, Milton Butterworth, Katie Breckheimer, Corum Smith, Scott Rhodes, and Philip Ellis.

**Staff in attendance:** Carleen Dixon, Megan Bishop, Bruce Gilliam, and Autumn Radcliff.

**Speakers in attendance:** None

**1. Call to Order:** 12:06

**2. Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the May 2021 minutes was made by Terry Maybin, seconded by Philip Ellis, unanimously approved.

**3. Public Input:** None

**4. New Business:**

**a. Election for Chair and Vice Chair for FY22**

- Chair nomination: Jeff Donaldson was unanimously approved by the board.
- Vice Chair nomination: Terry Maybin was unanimously approved by the board. Katie commends Jeff on his great work so far.

**b. County Manager Recommended Budget**

Carleen wanted to go over a few key things on the newly finalized FY22 budget.

- A field machine to complete field laser grading was funded.
- A striper machine to line fields was also funded.
- The Park Technician 2 was not funded.
- The Maintenance Shop in Jackson Park was not funded.
- The playground for Jackson Park was not funded.

Philip voiced his disappointment regarding the decision not to fund the Jackson Park playground.

**c. Review of the Needs Assessment**

The surveys were finished in February 2020, but presentations have been delayed due to COVID-19. The assessment was conducted to be a guiding tool for an eventual comprehensive plan for parks and recreation. This needs assessment is statistically valid, representing all demographics of county residents.

Carleen also handed out the non-random survey results that were collected online.

Katie was pleased to see that greenways, multipurpose, and unpaved trails were the top three needs reported by households.

Milton asked about the original purpose for this survey.

Carleen stated that this was funded as a step before beginning work on a comprehensive plan. An ADA assessment was also conducted in all parks.

Ralph asked how much revenue our programs bring into the county.

Carleen stated around \$300,000.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **1. Greenways Update – Autumn**

The Ecusta Rail Trail is a top priority for us and several municipalities. The acquisition should be completed this month and planning staff are working closely with Transylvania staff and the register of deeds to get this done. DOT hired an outside consultant that is managing the process with the county and Conserving Carolina. The multipurpose trail will start in downtown Hendersonville and end in Transylvania County.

### **2. Etowah Trail Update - Carleen**

Our contractor is currently finishing work at Hendersonville High School and will start on Etowah as soon as this is completed, approximately two weeks out from starting.

## **5. Staff Updates**

### **1. Parks Update – Carleen for Jason**

We are fully staffed with full-time positions in maintenance.

Disc golf has caused some erosion issues in Jackson Park due to the amount of use. There are also a lot of birds in Jackson Park, and concerns from birding groups about the increased use of the disc golf course.

Philip and Milton both mentioned the popularity of the course.

### **2. Admin Update – Megan**

We are interviewing people for front desk staff positions, we will hopefully fill much needed positions soon.

### **3. Departmental Update – Carleen**

This Friday is our first Movie in the Parks. It is on June 11 at Fields 8 and 9 at Jackson Park.

We are having a July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration this year on main street and TDA will be doing fireworks. We will block off Main Street from TDA to the Historic Courthouse. Lynn Goldsmith and the Jeter Mountain Band will be performing at 7pm. There will be inflatables, cornhole, street performers, food trucks and more.

## **6. Member Comments**

Corum stated that the Hendersonville Lightning had a very thorough article on the Ecusta Trail and encouraged board members to read it.

**7. Call to Adjourn: 1:14**