

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2002
PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES MAIN OFFICE
3:30 P.M.

Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
Orethia White, Vice Chair
Allan Stern
Corinne Hagood
Michael Manesiotis
James Vicar
William Brown
Thomas Mobley

Absent: None

PALS Staff: H. C. Boehm, Jr., Deputy Administrator, Development and Services
John Miller, Jr., Acting Director, Parks and Leisure Services
Norma Baker, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Leisure Services

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Middleton called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2002 AGENDA

Mr. Vicar motioned to approve agenda, with discussion.

Mr. Stern seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Vicar requested to move item 14 (PALS Board Composition) to the top of the agenda.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 4, 2002 MINUTES

Mr. Mobley motioned to approve the minutes.

Mrs. White seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MAY, JUNE AND AUGUST 2002 NOTES

Mr. Stern motioned to approve the notes.

Mr. Mobley seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

PALS BOARD COMPOSITION

Mr. Middleton called the board's attention to information provided by Sue Rainey, Clerk to Council. Mr. Stern explained the PALS Board does not have to follow the outline. The information is for ideas. Mr. Stern suggested the PALS Board consist of three members from North of the Broad, three members from South of the Broad and one at large member. The at

large representative will alternate each term from North to South of the Broad. Equal membership must be maintained North and South of the Broad.

Mr. Mobley asked if the Board was instructed to change its composition. Mr. Middleton explained the PALS Board initiated the proposed change due to lack of a quorum.

Mr. Miller explained if PALS Board decides to reduce numbers, five vacancies would be gone. Mr. Mobley asked what if the Board wishes to keep same amount of members. Mr. Miller replied current vacancies would be filled.

Mr. Vicar expressed vacancies are very slow to fill. Current composition of PALS Board has not worked. Military member cannot vote per the Commandant of the Marine Corps, however, his seat is a factor in quorum. School District representation is redundant at this time with Mr. Stern, school board member, serving on the PALS Board.

Mrs. Hagood asked how to ensure the right representatives are chosen for the board. Mr. Vicar responded, ask questions, (1) can you meet the first Thursday of every month. (2) Are you prepared to make this commitment for the next four years. (3) County issues.

Mr. Boehm explained how candidates are chosen:

- Application is submitted.
- Applicant volunteers their time.
- Applicant submits a resume.
- Applicant packets go before County Council.

Mr. Vicar suggested PALS inform Council that applicants need to be interviewed. Assets must be brought to the Board through applicants. Mr. Boehm called the Boards attention to page 1 of 1 of the candidates with resumes on file. Some applications do not show expertise or experience relating to PALS.

Mr. Boehm suggested the Board discuss PALS situation with County Council and Committee members. County Council will be receptive and are willing to hear recommended changes. Interest in both North and South of the Broad needs to be shown.

Mr. Vicar asked Mr. Miller if PALS staff is looking for a recommendation or the decision to make a recommendation. Mr. Miller responded, that he would like an immediate recommendation forwarded to Community Services Committee.

Mr. Stern suggested interest in three members North of the Broad, three members South of the Broad and one at-large, excluding the military and school district members.

Mr. Vicar motioned to have equal representation North and South of the Broad and one at-large representative. PALS Board composition would consist of, three representatives North of the Broad, three representatives South of the Broad and one at-large representative to alternate between North and South of the Broad River.

Mr. Stern seconded the motion amended with two exofficio positions, one military representative, and one school representative. Neither exofficio will vote or be considered in quota for quorum. Mr. Vicar accepted the amendment.

Mr. Mobley added PALS Board currently has three members North and three members South of the Broad. How would the at-large representative be selected? Mr. Miller stated current members would be protected, with a new member being placed in the at-large position.

Mr. Vicar stated concern of his position being unable to vote. Mr. Brown asked if Mr. Vicar could represent North of the Broad. Mr. Stern stated all positions are filled but Mr. Vicar could fill the at-large position. Mr. Mobley suggested the board consist of three representatives North of the Broad, three representatives South of the Broad and one school board member, vice one at-large, thus allowing Mr. Vicar to continue his voting status.

Mrs. White asked if current board members could resign. Mr. Miller replied yes.

Mr. Miller was asked what his recommendation is. Mr. Miller stated his is similar to Mr. Sterns.

Mr. Boehm stated all board members are protected in their membership. Reconstructing the board will only affect Mr. Vicar, as a board member. Committee could offer Mr. Vicar the at-large position and ask for a new school representative when Mr. Vicar's term expires.

Mr. Vicar motioned to have three representatives from north of the broad, three representatives from south of the broad and one representative at large to alternate between North and South of the broad river.

Mr. Stern seconded motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stern motioned Military and School representatives will be exofficio positions.

Mr. Vicar seconded with discussion stating this will take PALS Board from nine-member board to seven-member board.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Boehm stated PALS Board representation at the Community Services Committee meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. in County Council chambers would be very helpful.

Board asked staff to draft a letter from the Chairman to go to Council Community Services Committee. Mr. Miller reiterated, Mr. Middleton and Mr. Stern must return letters to Sue Rainey no later than November 1, 2002.

Mr. Miller explained that Mr. Middleton and Mr. Stern need to submit letters to Sue Rainey by November 1, 2002 annotating their choice to hold or relinquish their seats.

Girls and Boys Club Proposal

Mr. Miller stated PALS Staff recommendation is to not partner with the Boys and Girls Club at Booker T. Washington Center because staff presently has a program during the hours proposed by the Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. Stern motioned to accept the recommendation.

Mr. Mobley seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mobley asked if this is the same program in Coosaw and Broomfield. Mr. Miller stated they did not want to duplicate programs in the same building. Mr. Mobley asked what the attendance at Broomfield is. Mr. Miller replied, nine to ten.

BURTON WELLS

John Dixon is ready to talk to Folk Land Management Company in reference to the timber. Strecansky and Company is ready to begin the Burton Wells project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Miller will review who is on different committees, long range, finance, programs and facilities. PALS Board members need a clear understanding of each committee.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

PALS Football, Soccer and Cheerleading are in progress.

Bluffton's first year soccer league has begun. Between two hundred twenty five and two hundred fifty children are registered creating thirty-two teams. Soccer will begin at Shults Park Tuesday, September 23, 2002 at 5:30 p.m. There are eleven soccer teams from Bluffton in Hilton Head Island Recreation League.

Adult Softball leagues have begun in Southern Beaufort County.

Adult Co-Ed leagues have begun in Southern Beaufort County.

Senior Games opening day is Monday, October 7, 2002 at 4:30 in Sun City. Mr. Stern stated there would be four hundred eighty four participants. This is the second highest number ever.

Bladen Street Tennis Courts are 90% complete.

M.C. Riley Basketball Court is 80% complete.

Chaplin Park Grand opening for the Soccer fields will be Saturday, September 21, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.

PALS are working on an agreement for operations and maintenance for Cordilla Tennis Courts next to Creation Station.

Parks and Leisure Services New program, Kindermusic, will begin at Greene Street Center and Bluffton Center in the near future.

Mr. Miller will attend the South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association Conference in Greenville, SC from Saturday, September 7, through Tuesday, September 10, 2002.

Mr. Miller told the Board of a rescue he dubbed Miracle in the River. A nine-year old girl fell from her bike and was thrown in the water at high tide. She stayed a-float for 50 minutes until she was rescued. When asked where she learned to swim, her reply was the Beaufort Pool. She learned the skills to stay a-float in the Learn to swim program provided by PALS.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Mr. Middleton commended Mr. Miller and PALS staff in what they do. He said staff should be proud of what they do.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held Thursday, October 3, 2002 at the PALS Main Office. 1514 Richmond Avenue, Port Royal, SC.

Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Middleton adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.