

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 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
Thomas Mobley

Absent: William Brown

PALS Staff: John Miller, Jr., Division Head, Division of Parks and Leisure Services
Joe Penale, Recreation Superintendent, Division of Parks and
Leisure Services
Norma Baker, Assistant to the Division Head, Division of Parks and
Leisure Services
Johnny Davis, Athletic Supervisor, Division of Parks and Leisure Services

Public Representation: Mrs. Sandy Graves, Bluffton Swim Team Parent
Mr. Clay Graves, Bluffton Swim Team Parent

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 7, 2002 AGENDA

Mrs. White motioned to approve agenda.

Mr. Manesiotis seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 3, 2002 MINUTES

Mr. Vicar motioned to approve the minutes.

Mrs. White seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Sandy Graves addressed the board regarding Bluffton Swim Team. Mrs. Graves expressed concern of no full-time coach. Swim team parents have taken the PALS Board suggestions of helping with swim team needs. Parents have done fundraisers and paid some entrance fees for competition. Parents are requesting PALS Board authorize a full-time swim coach, older than a teenager, more experience and maturity, with all necessary certifications to take the swim team to meets. Swim Team Parents do not have qualifications to coach the team. Parents have looked

for a coach and cannot find one certified and willing to work for \$8.00 per hour. Mrs. Graves asked if the PALS Board could help. Mr. Middleton asked if parents are looking for authorization to hire a full-time coach. Mrs. Graves replied yes. They are doing fund raising and other needs. The request is for a coach only.

Mr. Stern asked how many hours the coach would be needed. Joe Penale replied, it would be very hard to estimate. Dependent upon how many meets the swim team attends. The coach must be present at all meets. Mr. Stern requested an estimation, Joe replied, year round.

Mr. Miller explained PALS submitted a swim team coach request with the 2002-2003 budget. Request was not approved including other personnel, pending MAXIMUS study. Mr. Miller stated PALS is trying to suffice with current coaches until next year. PALS, if approved, could have a swim team coach by July 2003. Mr. Miller asked Mrs. Graves if swim team parents could incur cost of a coach. Mrs. Graves responded the parents are already giving in other areas. Will the County provide a coach?

Mr. Middleton asked Mr. Miller if there is a possibility PALS could hire a coach. Mr. Miller informed the Board he would submit the request to administration. Mr. Vicar stated Battery Creek and Beaufort are paying no extra for coaches. Mrs. Graves stated there are only six children at Battery Creek and three at Beaufort. Bluffton currently has 40-50 children attending practice. Mr. Vicar stated that since this position is not in the budget, a coach can't be provided until June at the earliest, unless PALS could transfer fees.

Mr. Vicar stated he supports the notion, possibly PALS could increase user fees. Mrs. Graves stated there are 30-40 children on the swim team at this time and if PALS does not support them, PALS could loose them. Mr. Vicar stated that a \$25,000.00 salary is not comparable to current income per child at this time.

Mrs. White asked if there is a contingency fund in PALS budget, or if there should be an additional user fee. Mr. Stern asked, from the \$45.00 current user fee, how much is available for a coach. Mr. Miller stated he has Marjorie Lockhart, Aquatics Supervisor researching the subject now.

Mrs. White asked if the parents have acquired sponsors. Mrs. Graves said no. Mr. Vicar stated this request should be assigned to Program and Finance Committees.

Joe stated it would behoove the board to allow time for background information from Marjorie and Hilton Head Island, allowing for proper research before decision is made. Mr. Middleton stated proper committees will research and report back to the board.

Mr. Stern asked if parents have advertised for volunteers. Mr. Vicar suggested Mrs. Breemer. Mrs. Graves stated the volunteer must be certified, they have not found someone to meet the criteria. Mrs. Graves also stated the Bluffton Pool has lack of supervision after 2:00 p.m. each day. Mrs. Graves thanked the Board for their time and departed.

CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PALS BOARD COMPOSITION

Mr. Middleton stated he attended Monday, October 14, County Council Meeting. Council approved proposed Board Composition with only one no, Councilman Taylor.

Mr. Stern stated November 7, 2002 minutes must read, "All voting members are present at PALS Board meeting". Without candy and a hot tub.

Mr. Miller gave board members the new charter. Mr. Vicar is holding the "at large" seat. Mr. Vicar stated he would like the opportunity to read the new template, possibly discuss at the December 5, 2002 meeting. Mr. Middleton approved.

BURTON WELLS PARK

Mr. Miller met with the Burton Wells team Thursday, November 7, 2002. Team, currently consists of representatives from LS3P, Strecansky and Company, Malphrus Construction Company, EMC Engineering and Brunson Construction.

Thursday, November 14, 2002, tree removal will be complete. Malphrus Construction will begin grating. Two ponds have been suggested for landfill. Soccer Field parking may need shifted.

Burton Wells recreation center will be the first building started. Completion of three smaller buildings may proceed the recreation center. They will house electrical boxes, well pumps and other utility support for the main building. Projected completion date is March 2002. Mr. Miller will walk the property Saturday, November 9, 2002.

Mr. Miller stated Beaufort County could not sell timber since they are building at that location. Mr. Vicar disagreed; Mr. Stern stated you could sell the timber, if building permit is requested before clearing of the land. Mr. Miller stated the electric for Burton Wells must go under ground.

PARD

2002 PARD money will be used for resurfacing the basketball courts at Burton Wells, St. Helena Park and Bluffton Center. 2002 PARD money will also be used to resurface the tennis courts at Bluffton Center.

Mr. Miller stated it is difficult to divide PARD allocations and in the future, PALS may need to consider one location per year, alternating north and south of the broad. Mr. Stern requested the M.C. Riley track be resurfaced. Mr. Miller said possibly next year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Mr. Stern, Chairman, PALS Board Finance Committee, provided a report for each board member on proposed rate increases. The Finance Committee proposed increasing the following fees;

Athletic Fees	\$5.00	each child
Summer Camp rates	\$5.00	each child
Mini Camp rates	\$5.00	first and second child
Art Camp Rates	\$15.00	each child

PALS Finance Committee proposed a 25% decrease per child for Volunteer Head Coach's.

Mr. Vicar stated the Finance Committee did excellent work preparing information. Mr. Stern added with the cost increase, the cost of programs is still not being met.

Mr. Vicar added the 25% decrease for volunteer head coaches is good and requested how many dollars will be added to PALS revenue. Mr. Miller answered \$20,000.00 per year.

Mr. Stern motioned PALS board accept increase proposal from the Finance Committee.

Mrs. White seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Facilities Committee

Mr. Vicar, Chairman, Facilities Committee informed the board he will be walking through one facility per month for observation. November 2002, Mr. Vicar walked through Burton Wells. Almost every sign in the area is vandalized. There is no handicap parking. Handicap space designated is in six inches of sand, not handicapped accessible. The bleachers are handicap accessible, if you can get a wheel chair to them. Burton Wells fences are poor. The playground is full of leaves. Burton Wells fields are excellent.

Mr. Vicar will check Bluffton next month with a report for the board in December.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Punt, Pass and Kick, hosted by PALS and the Kiwanas was very successful.

Regular Basketball registration deadline is Friday, November 8, 2002.

Mink Point Center will sponsor a Dog Show Sunday, November 10, 2002.

M. C. Riley Basketball Courts

Paving is complete. First surface layer is complete. Contractor will paint courts on Friday, November 8, 2002.

Bladen Street Tennis Courts

Fence needs to have plastic coating and will be replaced. Surface will be colored the week of November 25, 2002.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Vicar expressed to Board members if his mole crickets comment to County Council caused any grief, he apologized.

Mrs. Hagood referred to articles in the newspaper in reference to PALS Board and suggested Board members make it clear, what the PALS Board is responsible for. Mr. Vicar stated the template does not mention policy. Discussion was held on template and board agreed to read over and discuss during December meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2002 at 3:30 in the Parks and Leisure Services Main Office, Port Royal, South Carolina.

Mr. Middleton adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.