

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES BOARD MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2003
PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES MAIN OFFICE
3:30 P.M.

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

Guests: Councilman, William L. McBride, District 5
H. C. Boehm, Jr., Director, Public Services Division
Mr. Chris Butler, Parent T-Ball registrant

PALS Staff: John Miller, Jr., Division Head, Division of Parks and Leisure Services
Joe Penale, Acting Division Head, Division of Parks and
Leisure Services
Norma Baker, Assistant to the Division Head, Division of Parks and
Leisure Services

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6, 2003 AGENDA

Mr. Vicar motioned to approve agenda.

Mr. Stern seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 5, 2002 MINUTES

Mr. Vicar stated motion was made, vote taken and passed PALS Board oppose Town of Bluffton operate Community Center at Shults Community Park. Verification made.

Mr. Vicar motioned PALS Board oppose Town of Bluffton operate Community Center at Shults Community Park.

Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

Motion Passed.

Mr. Vicar motioned to approve December 5, 2002 minutes.

Mr. Mobley seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Mr. Stern abstained because of absence.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Butler, Parent, spoke in behalf of his son, a T-Ball aged six-year-old who missed the cut-off date for Coach Pitch by one month. Mr. Butler expressed concern for other players being out at first base all the time, based on his sons' expertise. Mr. Butler does not want to see others lose interest because his son gets them out every time. Since he only missed the cut-off-date by one month, Mr. Butler requested PALS Board allow his son to play Coach Pitch.

Mr. Stern asked what the rules are. Mr. Miller responded, Children must play in their age group. The same request has been asked in the past. Mr. Manisiotis explained he knows of cases on Hilton Head Island where request has been approved.

Mr. Vicar asked when the deadline for registration is. Mr. Miller responded, Friday, January 31, 2003; currently PALS are filling in spaces with late applicants. Mr. Butler explained his son is registered for T-Ball.

Mr. Vicar expressed parents always come to the Board in the 12th hour. The child's coach should approach the Board immediately following the previous season. Criteria must be made. Mr. Butler stated he would have been here last year had he known. Mr. Vicar stated the Board without the Coaches input could not make rules vs. policy.

Mr. Brown asked Mr. Miller to check NRPA insurance. Mr. Middleton stated the Board would go with Mr. Stern's suggestion to examine policy.

Mr. Boehm Comment

Mr. Boehm addressed the Board in reference to additional request for funds to maintain and operate Hilton Head Island Chaplin Park/Tennis Courts by Hilton Head Island Recreation Association. Discussions six months ago with Hilton Head Island Town Officials were that requested operations and maintenance be their responsibility. Letter of request for funds is contrary to discussion. Beaufort County Public Works currently cleans around fences of Tennis Courts. Twenty Three Thousand Dollars for Hilton Head Island Recreation Association is not in this years budget.

Mr. Stern asked if Hilton Head Island asked for money when they requested to operate and maintain. Mr. Boehm stated Beaufort County was told no money would be requested. Mr. Manisiotis asked where funds previously came from. Mr. Boehm stated Chaplin is a new park.

Mr. Vicar expressed no desire to provide funds or services. Mrs. White disagreed, stating something needs to be done. Mrs. White asked Mr. Boehm to renegotiate. Mr. Boehm explained Beaufort County cannot increase the budget \$23,000.00.

Mrs. White said it was a terrible mistake and Hilton Head Island did not realize everything involved. Mrs. White asked, please, renegotiate. Mr. Vicar stated if that request comes to the board, it must be voted on. **Mrs. White motioned to renegotiate agreement between Hilton Head Island and Beaufort County. Motion was not seconded.**

Mr. Middleton asked if there were funds available. Mr. Boehm stated no. The earliest would be July 2003.

Mr. Brown asked Mr. Boehm, are you proposing tennis courts come to County for maintenance and operation, not financing. Mr. Miller stated PALS never owned those courts. Mr. Stern asked who maintains Chaplin Park. Mr. Miller stated the County operates and maintains the doggie park and athletic fields. Mr. Stern asked since PALS do not maintain parks, can the board vote? Mrs. Hagood said they belong to Town of Hilton Head Island. Mr. Stern said yes, there is no reason to vote.

Burton Wells

Gym area, Aerobics room and the racquetball room are under construction. MIS is working on Computer hookups, Internet and telephone connections.

PARD

PALS will present PARD request to Legislative Delegation, Monday, February 24, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. in County Council Chambers. Request consists of resurfacing Basketball courts at St. Helena, Burton Wells and Bluffton, also Resurfacing South Side Tennis Court.

Lady's Island

Beaufort County Staff Attorney reviewed the contract for Lady's Island property and found fifteen restrictions. Staff Attorney is contacting the Realtor to negotiate. Purchase would not be wise with restrictions. Sam's Point Road is location of property. Mr. Stern asked if there is any CIP money PALS could use. Mr. Miller stated there would be \$250,000.00 after purchase of property, allocated for soccer field, picnic and open space areas.

Committee Report

Finance Committee:

Mr. Stern requested the Budget be prepared early enough for Finance Committee to review, before presentation. Mr. Miller said he would set up appointment.

Facilities:

Mrs. White reported on Hilton Head Island Park Inspections. Barker Field fencing, doors, cage and restrooms have a lot of destruction. Mrs. White is concerned with always-same destruction and needless vandalism.

Mr. Manisiotis asked about status of property behind Barker Field. Mr. Miller responded PALS is paying same rent and renegotiating.

Programs:

Mrs. Hagood stated no report. She and Mr. Brown will schedule a meeting.

Departmental Update

Seven Hundred Fifty Children are registered for Baseball/Softball, 2003.

PALS Golf clinic filled up quickly.

Summer Camp dates are Monday, June 9 through Friday, July 25, 2003.

Samuel Head began work as Bluffton Recreation Specialist.

Shannon Loper began work as Bluffton Recreation Leader.

Budget:

Schedule is complete for staff to meet with Mr. Miller. Deadline is Thursday, February 27. Finance Committee will meet with Mr. Miller Friday, February 28, 2003 in Joe Penales' Office, Green Shell at 11:00 a.m. to discuss Budget.

Dale Community Center

Beaufort Construction awarded the bid. Mr. Miller will attend Dale community meeting on Monday, February 10, 2003, to discuss Center renovation.

Mr. Mobley asked about the tennis court fence at Bladen St. Tennis Courts new tennis courts. Mr. Miller responded PALS might be able to keep current fence.

Mr. Mobley asked the status on Shults Park Community Center. Mr. Miller responded a meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 7, 2003, with himself and Mr. Behrens, Bluffton Town Manager.

Mr. Mobley asked if swim team situation is solved. Mr. Miller responded coverage and swim teams are being coordinated.

Old Business

Dave Essler will give a presentation at March 6, 2003 Board meeting in reference to equestrian center. Mr. Brown stated Laurel Bay facility is being razed for new homes.

New Business

Mr. Vicar suggested in consideration of Staff and South of the Broad Board members, PALS Board meetings be held 2:30 p.m. vice 3:30 p.m. Board concurred.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2003 at 2:30 in the Parks and Leisure Services Main Office, Port Royal, South Carolina.

Mr. Middleton adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.