

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES BOARD
MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2005
Burton Wells Recreation Center
2:30 P.M.

Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
Orethia White, Vice Chair
Thomas Mobley
Corinne Hagood
William Grayson
Michael Manesiotis

Absent: Calvin White
William Brown
Allan Stern

Staff: John Miller, Jr., Director, Northern Beaufort County PALS
Joe Penale, Director, Southern Beaufort County PALS
Stacie Hawkins, Assistant to the Directors

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Middleton called meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.

APPROVAL OF November 3, 2005 AGENDA

Mrs. White motioned for approval.
Mrs. Hagood seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF October 6, 2005 MINUTES

Mr. Mobley motioned for approval.
Mrs. White seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF September 1, 2005 MINUTES

Mrs. Hagood motioned for approval.
Mr. Mobley seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

SHELL POINT PARK LIGHTING

Mr. John Miller, Jr. addressed the Board reference letters received from Mrs. Elizabeth Carey and Kristin Bonsee to PALS Board requesting lighting for the walking trails in Shell Point Park. Ms. Carey's request for lighting cites safety reasons for those who participate in early morning walks (as early as 5 a.m.). Mr. Miller reported PALS Staff does not recommend lighting for Shell Point Park walking trail. Mr. Miller reminded Board members that Shell Point Park is located in a secluded area. When the park was first built, there was an agreement with Shell Point residents that there would not be any type lighting. Shell Point Park is open from dawn to dusk. Residents have requested a gate to minimize the amount of nighttime traffic in the park. PALS is looking at installing a gate in the future. Mr. Miller expressed his concern that lighting may encourage increased activities in the area that may not be favorable. Mr. Manesiotis asked what would it cost to install a gate. Mr. Miller reported a farm gate would cost approximately \$500.00. However, anything nicer could be costly. Mr. Grayson inquired about the current type of enclosure. Mr. Miller reported a gate would stop vehicular traffic, but would not stop foot traffic.

Board members recommend Mr. Middleton send letter to Ms. Carey explaining previous agreement with residents referencing lighting and park operational hours.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Northern Beaufort County PALS

- A. PALS Fall Family Festival – Mr. Miller began with an apology and presentation to Mrs. Corinne Hagood. Mr. Miller presented Mrs. Hagood with her Judge's identification badge and prizes from her placement in the bake-off and quilting contests. Mrs. Hagood placed first for award winning cookie recipe. She also placed first for her beautiful quilt. Mr. Miller turned the floor over to Mrs. Hagood to make the final report on the Fall Family Festival. Mrs. Hagood reported the many games and activities provided for families to include: the three-legged race, crazy hat contest, quilting contest, bake-off, scavenger hunt, haunted house, hayrides, and many more. Area celebrity judges included: Morris Campbell, Director, Beaufort County Community Services; Edna Crews, Superintendent, Beaufort County School District; Jenell Cain, Editor, Sea Island Scenes of Beaufort; Rebecca Quigley, Beaufort Gazette; and Corinne Hagood, Beaufort County Parks and Leisure Services Board.
- B. Basketball Registration – Registration ends on Friday, November 4, 2005. Mr. Manesiotis inquired about why registration ends prior to school basketball cut dates. Mr. Miller reported that in most cases, parents will pre-register their children for PALS programs and request a refund if child is selected for school team. However, PALS will not turn a parent away who does not elect to pre-register.
- C. Fort Fremont Park – Two sets of construction documents have been delivered to Public Works so that Mark Roseneau can begin work to complete the enclosure process of the park.

- D. Crystal Lake Park – Mr. Miller reported he will meet with Mr. Boehm and other staff to discuss direction of Crystal Lake Park and Fort Fremont Park, as well as, other property purchased by Rural and Critical Land. Russ Marane and Trust for Public Land has contracted with a local architect to design a master plan for Crystal Lake Park. Mr. Miller reported he spoke with Jim Hicks, advising him that once the planning process begins, PALS would involve Lady’s Island Business and Professional Association (LIBPA) and Lady’s Island Community Preservation Committee (LICPC). Mr. Hicks recommend having one meeting because LICPC consists of members of LIBPA. Mr. Mobley asked where and what time meeting with Mr. Boehm will take place. Mr. Miller advised Board members this will be a staff only meeting. Mr. Middleton asked if there was ever a group that presented plans for Crystal Lake Park in the past. Mr. Miller advised Board members there was an original conceptual plan for Crystal Lake Park. However, Crystal Lake Park was not comprised of the current properties. It was just the lake itself. Some of the items to be discussed included: partnering with Beaufort High School because their athletic parking lot is adjacent to the property, nature trails, and turning the Butler Marine building into a nature center.

Mrs. White asked how Fort Fremont Park plans were received by Council on last week. Mr. Miller advised Board members the park plans that went before Council were those of Okatie Regional Park. Mr. Mobley asked if Broad River Fishing Pier was out of PALS hands. Mr. Miller advised Board members that the fishing pier is considered a recreational area, falling under PALS. Years ago, there was a master plan drawn up in terms of partnering with commercial activities and producing revenue. The Broad River Pier is now in discussion with County Council. The pier is currently closed for safety reasons. Mr. Miller reported on his visit to a pier at Folly Beach to get ideas on how to best use the Broad River Pier. Ultimately, the decision will be made by County Council.

Southern Beaufort County PALS

- A. Okatie Regional Park – Mr. Penale reported Okatie Regional Park master plan has gone through Public Service Committee. Residents requested adding disk golf. Because it is a passive park, disk golf cannot be added.
- B. Berkley Hall Park – A 20 acres piece located at the maintenance entrance of Berkley Hall, will be used as a passive park. The County will get the permitting done as it has just been approved by the Corridor Review Board. Once permits have been obtained, Berkley Hall will be contacted and they will construct the park. Park will include a walking trail, picnic tables, and 12 parking spaces. Mrs. White asked if disk golf will be included or is it off the table. Mr. Penale reported that disk golf was off the table for PALS, however, he did see it was included in plans for Jenkins Island.
- C. Athletic Programs - Southern PALS is finishing up football season. There was an additional team this year, bringing the total to three teams. Soccer numbers were up, with over 570 participants. Cheerleading has gone from 12 to over 30 participants.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Middleton asked what Mr. Boehm has done in reference to recommendation to have a video presentation of Stormwater information. Mr. Miller reported Mr. Boehm is not present due to attending a Stormwater meeting. However, Mr. Miller will inquire.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mrs. Hagood recommended future PALS Board meetings be held at Burton Wells Recreation Center, due to low attendance at Bluffton meetings. Mr. Manesitots stated his appreciation for not having to make the drive every month, but would not have a problem if meeting location was changed. Mr. Mobley stated he thought the purpose of the Bluffton meeting was to make the Board accessible to citizens of Southern Beaufort County. Mr. Miller suggested that telephone calls indicating no attendance, would allow Staff to call the Chairman of the Board to decide if there is quorum to hold meeting. Board members decided they will continue to alternate location of meetings.

- B. Mr. Miller referred to hand out received from Clerk to Council on Board attendance, request for reappointment or resignation, asking all Board Members to adhere to the request. To date, Mrs. White is the only member that needs to make that decision. Mr. Miller also asked Board members to update their contact information.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is **Thursday, December 1, 2005** at 2:30 p.m. at Bluffton Recreation Center, 61B Ulmer Road, Bluffton, South Carolina.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.