

**BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

Burton Wells Recreation Center
Thursday, September 6, 2007
2:30 PM

Board Members Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
William Brown
William Grayson
Corrine Hagood
Michael Manesiotis
Thomas Mobley

Board Members Absent: Allan Stern, Vice Chairman
Bill Evans
Bryan Hill

PALS Staff Present: John Miller, Director of Northern Beaufort PALS
Sherry Gordon-Jones, Administrative Assistant to Directors

Guests Present: Michael Shapiro, Island Packet Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Middleton, Chairman, at 2:33 pm.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 1, 2007 AGENDA

It was motioned by Thomas Mobley and seconded by William Brown to approve the November 1, 2007 agenda. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2007 MINUTES

It was motioned by William Brown and seconded by Corrine Hagood to approve the September 6, 2007 minutes. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

PARD

Mr. Miller directed the board members to the handout on PARD funds distribution and gave a brief history on PARD. Parks and Recreation Development Funds are funds that are allocated to the forty-six counties by SC Department of Recreation and Tourism. The PARD funds allocated for Beaufort County is \$42,062.84. The distribution of funds to each municipality is determined by the latest census report. This year, the PARD funds are based on the 2005 Census report and

will be distributed to City of Beaufort, City of Bluffton, Town of Hilton Head, Town of Port Royal, and Beaufort County based on population. The unincorporated general areas of the county are distributed to the county PARD fund.

Beaufort County received \$23,555.18 to be used for the Bluffton area resurfacing the Bluffton Tennis Courts and construction of a playground at the Bluffton Center. The City of Beaufort will use their allocation of \$3,785.66 to do some work at their Southside Park. The Town of Bluffton originally wanted to use their \$1,261.89 to cover the basketball courts. Mr. Miller explained that he had just spoken with Ted Bennett prior to meeting. At first Tim said that the Town of Bluffton would allow the county to use the funds as they did last year and then he called back to change the plan for the town to use the funds to cover the outdoor basketball courts. But since then, Tim and Joe met this morning and decided to allow the county to use the Town of Bluffton's allocations toward the resurfacing the tennis courts. So the \$1,261.89 will be added to the Beaufort County PARD fund allocation totaling \$24,817.07. Tim will send a letter as he did last year stating that the Town of Bluffton will allow Beaufort County to use their allocations so that when PALS sends the information to the Intergovernmental Committee, town representatives will know about their funding allocations.

The Town of Hilton Head will use their \$10,515.71 to resurface the tennis courts at Chaplin Park. The Town of Port Royal will use their allocations of \$2,944.40 to update the playground equipment at the Lenora Drive Park.

The next step for PARD is to go to the Intergovernmental Committee of County Council. Once it is approved with the committee, it will go to County Council for approval and then to the Beaufort County Delegation for final approval.

Mr. Manesiotis asked if this money goes directly to the towns or does it go through Public Works? Mr. Miller clarified that the PARD funds go directly to the appropriate town. None of the funds go to Public Works. Mr. Manesiotis asked if the allocations are all that the municipalities need for specified projects or are there matching monies? Mr. Miller explained that PARD is 80/20 match. Where one sees that a town is asking for \$10,000.00 for a project, they are actually spending more because the town has to match and spend 20% more than what is asked.

Mr. Miller asked the board to motion to allow PARD to be sent to the Intergovernmental Committee. It was motioned by Michael Manesiotis and second by William Brown to accept the PARD allocations as received with corrections for the Town of Bluffton. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Northern Beaufort – John Miller, Jr. reporting

- A. Fort Fremont Park – All of the signs are up. Mr. Miller met with Public Works on site to discuss removing the old silver fencing surrounding the fort and do some sprucing up on site. Will talk with Ian Hill, Historic Planner, to discuss additional funding for restoration of the fort. The county has completed all renovations that funding has been allocated for. The only task that is left is Graybar has to put the fences up on Bay Point and Lands End Road. All signs indicate who the donors are. Mr. Middleton asked if the county will be maintaining the ground so that it will not become overgrown as it was. Mr. Miller explained that he spoke with

Public Works to assist in this project because a considerable amount of funds was spent to clean up the grounds. Public Works will work out a plan for routine maintenance along with law enforcement patrols for trespassers. Mr. Middleton asked if persons will be able to access the waterfront. Mr. Miller explained that Wharf Road (dirt road) has remained open for access. Once renovations are complete, consideration of a Park Ranger or Park Supervisor position for the site. Mr. Brown asked if the access will allow vehicle or pedestrian access. Mr. Miller explained that the access will be for both.

- B. Crystal Lake Park – PALS sent a letter to Gary Kubic to be sent to the Beaufort County School District's Superintendent asking to deed portion of school property that borders Crystal Lake and create a Memorandum of Agreement for use of parking lot for patrons. Mr. Kubic has sent that letter and is awaiting an answer. Trust for Public Lands is still negotiating with St. Peters for deed to their portion of the land. Fred will get back to Mr. Miller by the end of the next week.
- C. Senior Services Center – PALS must go back and reevaluate the center. In addition to get a multi-purpose room, PALS was trying to get space for offices and computer rooms. But due to the cost of the facility, it will result in a large multi-purpose room. It will still have breezeway. As reported to the board previously, PALS will have some set-backs due to budgeting. The architects have decided to move the building up front to even it up with the Burton Wells Recreation Center Building so the breezeway will go in the rear rather than the front. The extra spaces that are wanted will be placed up for bids as alternates.
- D. Agnes Major Center Lease Agreement – Mr. Miller met with Jean Washington, Executive Director of Lowcountry Boys and Girls Club to review the lease. There were questions regarding coverage during outside community functions such as rentals for events. It was explained that the community would rent the building through PALS. A PALS representative would be available to open and close the facility. Boys and Girls Club will not be responsible for rentals. The Boys and Girls Club will now take the lease to their legal counselor for review. A response should be received by the next PALS Advisory Board meeting.
- E. Greene Street Renaming – PALS is on the County Council's Public Services Committee agenda for November 6, 2007 Meeting to rename the Greene Street Neighborhood Activity Center to the Charles Lynn Brown Neighborhood Activity Center. If approved, it will go to County Council for approval. It has gotten approval from the Historic Review Board. PALS received all approvals necessary for this ordinance. PALS will contact the community members that presented the recommendation to the PALS Advisory Board to update them on the process.
- F. Division Head Update – PALS is currently winding down from Soccer, Football, and Cheerleading leagues. We are preparing for youth basketball season. The registration for basketball deadline was October 31, 2007 but was extended to November 2, 2007 to allow parents to register. Mr. Brown asked if the age changes worked when change has increased for current programs.

Mr. Mobley asked Mr. Miller if lifeguard situation has improved. Mr. Miller reported that Employee Services has approved to hire lifeguards, head lifeguards, and WSI's.

Southern Beaufort – Joe Penale reporting

- A. Buckwalter Community Park – Park will open two soccer fields on September 15th that consists of 8 small fields for ages 4-7.

- B. Altamaha – Is in its primitive stage. Will have trails to water and parking area.
- C. Bluffton Center Gymnasium Floor – Phase I will not start until after basketball season which will consist of gym floor and restrooms. Funding for new roof for Rec. Center is being requested in upcoming CIP.
- D. Okatie – Will have trails extended 1.5 miles and an observation.
- E. T-ball Fields – Will be complete by Spring and outfields are being seeded.
- F. Participation Numbers – Soccer increased from 44 to 55 teams; Adult Softball increased from 30 to 43; Cheerleaders from 40 to 55; and Football increased from 7 to 10.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Middleton thanked everyone for attending meeting.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 2:30 pm at the Bluffton Recreation Center, Bluffton, South Carolina.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 PM.