

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

Burton Wells Recreation Center  
Thursday, April 3, 2008  
2:30 PM

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**Board Members Present:** Arthur Middleton, Chairman  
Allan Stern, Vice Chairman  
William Grayson  
Corrine Hagood  
Michael Manesiotis

**Board Members Absent:** William Brown  
Thomas Mobley  
Bill Evans

**Staff Present:** Saleem Khattak, Director of Public Services  
Joseph Penale, Director of Southern Beaufort PALS  
Sherry Gordon-Jones, Administrative Assistant to Directors

**Guests Present:** Robert Anderson, Beaufort County School District  
Bob Fletcher, Town of Bluffton  
Dobbie Greene, Coach  
Larry Hickey, Parent

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Middleton, Chairman, at 2:30 pm.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 3, 2008 AGENDA**

It was motioned by Allan Stern and seconded by Corrine Hagood to approve the April 3, 2008 agenda. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 6, 2008 MINUTES**

It was motioned by Allan Stern and seconded by William Grayson to approve the March 6, 2008 minutes. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Larry Hickey introduced himself and addressed the Board concerning his issue. Mr. Hickey passed out a letter that explained his situation (Letter Attached) and asked that an explanation be given as to why his son, Max, cannot play.

Mr. Stern asked Mr. Hickey who called him the last two times. Mr. Hickey explained that Ronnie Moore called. Mr. Manesiotis asked Mr. Greene how many children are on his team's roster. Mr. Greene answered 12 counting Max. Mr. Grayson asked what the age for coach pitch is. Mr. Penale explained the age is 6 years old. Mr. Penale explained that the policy states that a

child cannot move up two age groups. Mr. Grayson asked Mr. Hickey how old was Max? Mr. Hickey said that Max is 5 years old. Mr. Greene explained that Shannon Loper told him that she set the age group for coach pitch at 6 years of age to allow T-batters (4-5 year olds) to move up for parents that wanted their children to have a little more competition. Mr. Hickey explained that he felt that his son, Max, is being singled out because of his last name and parents' involvement with ABBS. Mr. Middleton thanked Mr. Hickey for coming to the Board meeting and explained that the Board would discuss his situation and have Mr. Penale to give him an answer by the end of the day.

Mr. Dobbie Greene introduced himself and addressed the Board concerning his coach's packet he received that included a game schedule, rules, a roster, and a flyer advertising a dentist. He asked the Board if they were aware that they were endorsing private businesses, if so, what the cost and where does the money go? Mr. Greene explained that he has a small business and would like some advertisement. Mr. Penale explained to Mr. Greene that the dentist advertised is a paid corporate sponsor (\$2500) and has earned the privilege of having his business advertised. Mr. Greene asked where the money goes. Mr. Penale explained that the money goes to the Soccer program. Mr. Greene asked what else is offered besides free advertisement. Mr. Penale explained that he would get a logo on the team shirts. Mr. Greene asked if there was only one corporate sponsor. Mr. Penale replied that at this time, there is only one. Mr. Penale offered Mr. Greene the opportunity to do the same at his convenience. Mr. Middleton thanked Mr. Greene for attending.

#### **PARD (Provisio 73.12 of the 07/08 State Budget**

Mr. Penale explained to the Board, every other year Northern and Southern Beaufort alternates the use of the total amount provided for the county. This year, Southern Beaufort County will use the entire funds (\$21,000) to resurface the two tennis courts at Bluffton Center and also to place a new playground on the side.

Mr. Grayson asked Mr Penale if what he explained is different than the information the Board received. Mr. Penale asked what the Board received and was provided a copy of the letter. Mr. Penale explained that the Board received the Provisio 73.12 letter which is additional funds through PARD. Beaufort County (\$79,560.08) will be used for Dale and Scott Basketball Courts as well as Beaufort Tennis Courts resurfacing. City of Beaufort will receive \$12,136.28. Town of Bluffton is to receive \$4300 but Mr. Penale was unsure why the letter explained the County will use the funds. Town of Hilton will receive \$33,711.90. Town of Port Royal will receive \$9,439.33.

Mr. Manesiotis asked Mr. Penale if the memo was correct based on his explanations. Mr. Penale explained that the memo with the figures is correct. The other PARD figures that he explained was the annual PARD funds received and this funding is an addition. Mr. Grayson asked if the Board had the original PARD funds figures. Mr. Penale explained that the Board was given the original PARD funding information back in December 2007.

**Mr. Penale asked the board to motion to allow the additional PARD to be sent to the Intergovernmental Committee. It was motioned by Michael Manesiotis and second by William Grayson to accept the additional PARD allocations as received. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

## **DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE**

*Northern Beaufort – Joe Penale, reporting for John Miller, Jr.*

- A. Fort Fremont Park – Mr. Cullen Chambers will begin working on Preservation Plan and send it to PALS within 90 days.
- B. Crystal Lake Park – A meeting has been planned with Robert Klink, Doug Trogden, Truitt Rabun to discuss what surveys are needed for Truitt to complete the Master Plan. Awaiting a response from Robert Klink to set up the meeting.
- C. Lady's Island Park – Additional appraisals have been discussed for additional 7.96 acres with Assessor's Office and will have an appraisal within two weeks.

*Southern Beaufort – Joe Penale reporting*

- A. Buckwalter Community Park – Funding is in place for lights. Has received approval to begin parking lot lights. The progress of the center is on target. Mr. Grayson asked when the baseball complex is going to be built at Buckwalter. Mr. Penale explained that it depends on funding but it is not foreseeable for the next couple of years.
- B. Altamaha – Almost complete. Public Works has done a great job with construction. PALS is using the funds that were allocated for the development. There will be 19 parking spaces, trails to the water, a park sign that will coincide with the existing sign at Pinckney Colony, and awaiting an opening date.
- C. Bluffton Recreation Center – Work will start shortly and be completed in July.
- D. British Soccer – Southern PALS will begin a new program in conjunction with British Soccer. On June 16-20<sup>th</sup>, British Soccer will be using our parks. Mr. Penale handed out the flyer (Attached) for information. A free coaches clinic for all Soccer coaches will also be conducted as part of the partnership
- E. Bluff Fest – Will be held on June 28<sup>th</sup> at Bluffton High School. Southern PALS will be working with the Town of Bluffton and Bluffton High's Booster Club for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Event. Proceeds will be split between PALS and Bluffton High Booster Club. The event will consist of various vendors and at the end a fireworks display at the Bluffton High Soccer Field.
- F. Bluffton Tennis Association – Approached PALS two months ago to partner with construction of tennis courts at Buckwalter Park. Mr. Penale's intent is to write a letter of commitment for \$400,000 of impact fees to get them started with securing grants from the Tennis Association. They also have some money on hand to go to an architectural firm to begin blueprints. There will not be any timetable or dates listed on the letter. The group has assured Mr. Penale that they will be able to receive a \$200,000 grant to assist with off-setting the cost. Mr. Penale recommended this to the Board with the idea of not needing to hire additional staff but operate it as Chapel Parks except without acquiring a tennis professional.
- G. Gift from Town of Bluffton – The Town of Bluffton has gifted to Southern PALS a cover for the outdoor basketball court located at the M.C. Riley Baseball Complex. The funds out of the Town of Bluffton's CIP will pay for the gift. Mr. Penale asked the Board's approval to accept the gift. Mr. Grayson asked who will be responsible for maintenance of the cover. Mr. Penale explained that he will place request to Gary Kubic and Saleem Khattak for Public Works to be cover the

maintenance contract. Mr. Grayson asked if there will be a charge to use the covered facility. Mr. Penale explained that it will be a PALS Public Facility and free to the public.

**It was motioned by Allan Stern and seconded by Michael Manesiotis to accept the gift from the Town of Bluffton. The motion was moved and passed unanimously. The Board thanked Mr. Bob Fletcher, Town of Bluffton, for the gift.**

All PALS baseball, softball, and soccer leagues are beginning this week. Registration for Summer Camp will begin and hiring for staff.

Mr. Middleton asked Mr. Penale if there was an update for the Senior Services Center and Agnes Major Center Lease. Mr. Penale explained that he assumed there are no changes on those two projects.

Mr. Middleton recognized Mr. Robert Anderson, a prospective Board Member and thanked him for coming.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Manesiotis asked Mr. Penale if he knew when the budget will come back to the Board. Mr. Khattak explained that the budget has been provided to the Finance Department for review and recommendations. Once recommendations are made, departments will be given the opportunity to make necessary changes to comply.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Arthur Middleton motioned for the Board to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Mr. Hickey's issues. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hagood. The motion was moved and passed unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session.

**The Board voted unanimously that Mrs. Jones shall write a letter addressing the Board's decision of the Personnel issue to Mr. Kubic for Mr. Middleton to sign. The Board also discussed Mr. Hickey's situation and directed Mr. Penale to inform Mr. Hickey of the Board's decision.**

### **NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Middleton thanked everyone for attending meeting.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, June 5, 2008 at 2:30 pm at the Bluffton Recreation Center, Bluffton, South Carolina.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.