

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Conference Room
Beaufort Industrial Park, Building 102
Thursday, October 1, 2009
2:30 PM

Board Members Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
Ronald Campbell
Norman Varnes

Board Members Absent: Allan Stern, Vice Chairman
Robert Anderson
William Brown
Bill Evans
William Grayson
Michael Manesiotis

Staff Present: Morris Campbell, Director of Community Services
Cristina Roberson, Director of PALS
Joseph Penale, Deputy Director of PALS
Sherry Jones, Assistant to Directors

Guest Present: Councilman William McBride, Beaufort County Council
Reverend Dr. Van Gaines, Associate Pastor of Orange Grove Baptist Church
Chante Daniels, Parent
Curt & Kathy Henry, Afterschool Volunteers
Marian Rollings, Afterschool Volunteer
Jane Chisolm, Afterschool Volunteer

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Middleton at 2:53 PM. Since there was not a quorum, Mr. Middleton explained that the Board members present would entertain Public Comment and would defer any motions or decisions until the next Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Chante Daniels, addressed the Board on behalf of afterschool parents. Ms. Daniels asked that the Intercession Fees be re-evaluated because it is a lot on parents to pay \$35.00 per child for multiple children to attend intercession and also pay \$50.00 per child for afterschool within a short period of time.

Mrs. Marian Rollings, St. Helena Episcopal Church Volunteer, spoke on behalf of the PALS afterschool volunteers of the community. *Please review her attached speech.*

Mr. Middleton recognized Councilman McBride and Reverend Gaines in the room. He asked them for comments but both declined citing that they were there for support.

Mr. Middleton asked Ms. Roberson to address the concerns. Ms. Roberson explained to everyone that the rumors are purely rumors. She has asked all Center Supervisors to evaluate current programs for efficiency. Once those reports are complete, staff will meet to discuss how better to meet the needs of the community. The afterschool programs provide a safe pace for children to do homework, socialize, and have fun. Evaluating fees and charges is necessary now that PALS is one department. As for the

Senior programs, PALS is looking at how to best serve the seniors of the community by partnering with the Senior Services of Beaufort County.

Mrs. Rollings asked Ms. Roberson if community constituents could contribute toward scholarships to assist children whose families are in financial distress. Ms. Roberson explained that it would be perfectly okay for the community to assist financially. Community involvement is the key in making PALS successful.

Mr. Middleton thanked everyone for their concerns and explained that all concerns will be addressed by the PALS Advisory Board's Program Committee. Once the committee meets and approves revisions, everyone will be notified.

MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Middleton thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 2:30 PM at the Beaufort Industrial Village, Bldg. 2 in Beaufort, South Carolina.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.