

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

Buckwalter Recreation Center  
Thursday, February 1, 2018  
2:33 PM

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- Board Members Present:** Tom Erter Vice Chairman, Erac Priester, Bruce Yeager, Mike Covert, Stan Gangshow,
- Board Members Absent:** Arthur Middleton, Chairman, Mike Manesiotis; Greg McCord;
- Staff Present:** Matt Watts (PALS Deputy Director), Phil Foot (Director of Public Safety), Vincent Leon (PALS Pool Manger), Antoinette Binette (PALS Pool Manager), Brenda Lindblad (PALS Marketing), Lisa Arrington (Administrative Assistant to Director),
- Guest Present:** No guests present.
- Call to Order:** Tom Erter called the meeting to order at 2:33 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present. Everyone introduced themselves.
- Public Comment:**  
No public comment.

**Review:**  
Board approved minutes for October of 2017. Tom Erter made a motion to approve the minutes, approved by Tom and Bruce Yeager seconded the motion, all approved.

**Island Recreation Center:** Frank Soule presented updated brochure of upcoming events. Spoke of the Senior programs and attendance. Aquatics has been using outside pool due to placing dome over the indoor pool. Youth and Teen programs are still going with the assistance of the school district. Youth athletics has been successful, with basketball using the school gyms for the kids. Special Events was good with Snow day, Daddy/daughter dance was successful. March is the Wing Fest and Seafood Fest at the end of the month. Frank updated on the progress of the construction. They have received multiple donations and marketing for more donations. Tennis courts should be completed in next few weeks. The Youth and Teen room should be completed by first of April. Frank gives target for opening around the first of August. Frank presented a video of the construction progress.

**New Business:** Matt Watts discussed option for opening earlier, try for a trial run for a month. Tom Erter asked how we would get the message out for that time change. We would send out email blast and use social media, as well as posting signs. Bruce Yeager asked if we would open all of the facility, could kids come in to shoot basketball. Matt stated that our policy is Children are not able to come in during school hours. That would open it up for them to come in for an hour then we would need more staff to "police" the facility. Tom stated we would need more than one person to open earlier. Matt stated we would look at staffing, if we are able to open earlier, we would let the Board members know in advance. We would advertise ahead of time for the members to know of changes. Matt presented Annual Report; Shannon Loper created the report with detailed information and numbers in report. Tom commends Shannon

for working on it. Tom stated the Marketing team should work on getting the information out. Brenda Lindblad said they would be posting it online.

Stan Ganshow asked about the information on the three kids on the roof, if the issues had been resolved. No Trespass notices were placed on all three kids. Matt gave information of how the kids were able to get on the roof and how they will correct the issue.

**Fees:** Matt presented the option for Swim Stroke improvement classes. The class would be approx. 45 minutes. Cost of existing classes are 30 minutes \$60 for 6 lessons. The fee is \$20 per class. Tom asked if it would be \$20 per class and how many classes? Bruce asked if this was already discussed, previous meeting was for swim classes. Kristina Winland stated this was to provide adults with option for lessons. Bruce asked if they are to set the fees. Tom asked if they signed up for multiple classes would cost be lower. Kristina stated if someone wanted to sign up for multiple classes then they would charge \$15 per class. Bruce Yeager suggested to set fees at one class for \$20, if multiple classes \$15 per class, approved by all.

**Athletics:** Matt presented the final numbers for Basketball, Beaufort has 33 teams and 268 participants, and Bluffton has 88 teams with 684 participants. Both totals are up from last years. Bruce Yeager asked if the totals in the report were North and South added together. Matt confirmed. Spring Sports registrations are still going on. Adult Softball and Volleyball will be a little later. Interest in Adult Flag Football and Adult Kickball, may bring those in later. Golf and Tennis, had someone in the community, Terry Miskolczi, approach us about the 70/30 program for golf at Crescent Golf Club. 6-8 lessons for \$60, may eventually do adult. Tom suggested partnering with a golf course. Terry Miskolczi would like to offer golf lessons to Special Needs groups at some point in future. Youth Tennis registration started, partnered with Wayne Lilly.

**Special Events:** SCAP Championship games, 3 days with 40 degree weather, and rain then temperature dropped to 30 degrees. Matt gave the winners to each division. We had great attendance. The Home and Garden Show will be here March 16-18. They will attempt to purchase another floor covering to be able to use all four gyms.

**Marketing:** Brenda Lindblad does our marketing. Matt showed the boards that are being placed into businesses for promoting our registrations. People can tear off a form with our information on it. There was suggestions of taking some to tax office. Brenda attended Health and Fitness Expo put on by the Chamber of Commerce; she found that information about the Rec Centers or pools is not out in the Beaufort area. Get the word out for participation. Brenda has improved the banners that are placed out in various areas.

**Aquatics:** Kristina Winland presented numbers for the Beaufort and Battery Creek pools. The numbers were compared this year to last year. Swim teams started with 9 participants, next session with be Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. Vinny Leon presented numbers for Bluffton pool. Bruce asked if the check-ins were correct and up to date. Will be starting a "Mommy and Me" class in the summer. Propane heaters were added to both pools. Stan asked if it was announced about the propane heaters. Kristina advised the pools have always been heated, but with the weather being below freezing this winter the heaters froze. The propane heaters are for back up. Phil advised that the heaters are like our heaters at home, they are to help if there are any issues.

#### **Director's Report:**

- A. Employee Update:** Matt gave update on Admin Clerks for the increase in business. New hires are Phylis Golis. Athletic Director is Nicole Esposito, working to help out in the front with short staff. Lifeguards, Arthur Garry is full time and Caitlin Harrington is part time.

**Executive Session:** No Executive Session.

**Questions:** Bruce asked about the Sunday openings. Matt advised we did two separate opening dates, first one was not very successful and the second one was. The first was too close to the snow days in area. Bruce asked if we are going to do so again. Matt said we would do as Board would like. Bruce asked if there are any games on Sunday, Matt stated not at this time.

Mike Covert asked about decrease in attendance with the pools due to the pool conditions. Mike asked how he can go to Council to keep funding for the pools. Matt advised the partnership with Low Country Aquatics has increased the numbers at Battery Creek. Mike asked about the comprehensive plans on our wish list or budget requests. Mike asked if there is a comprehensive plan for the fields with turf versus artificial turf. He said that they would need the data for the fiscal year planning. Matt will get with Facilities, Mark Roseneau, to see about getting the numbers for the cost for fertilizing, lining and preparing one field.

Phil Foot will be meeting with his staff the second week of March to get the preliminary report together. Phil will work with Shannon on prioritizing and re-evaluating the Comprehensive plan. Discussions continue on getting information together on cost of running the different areas of Parks and Rec Centers and the fields being maintained by a separate department.

Tom asked for a preliminary budget by next meeting.

#### **7. Announcements:**

##### **A. Next Meeting-April 5, 2018**

**Next meeting is April 5, 2018**

**Adjourned at 3:27 pm**