

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

Bluffton Recreation Center
Thursday, November 6, 2008
2:30 PM

Board Members Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
Allan Stern, Vice Chairman
William Brown
William Grayson
Corrine Hagood

Board Members Absent: Robert Anderson
Bill Evans
Michael Manesiotis
Thomas Mobley

Staff Present: John Miller, Director of Northern Beaufort PALS
Joseph Penale, Director of Southern Beaufort PALS
Stephanie Morton, Administrative Technician
Brian Hill, Budget Analyst

Guests Present: Ryan Adams, ABBS
Justin Newman, ABBS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Middleton, Chairman, at 2:41 pm.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 6, 2008 AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2, 2008 MINUTES

It was motioned by William Grayson and seconded by William Brown to approve the October 2, 2008 minutes. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ryan Adams and Justine Newman of ABBS addressed the Board regarding ABBS update and report. Mr. Grayson explained to Mr. Newman that the Board invited ABBS to the meeting to discuss the progress of ABBS in its takeover venture of youth baseball and softball. Mr. Newman explained that ABBS is in the process of establishing a website that would allow on-line registration, sponsorship information, team information, concessions information, uniform and equipment information. The next ABBS meeting is December 3rd in which registration will be discussed. ABBS still intends on offering softball and baseball during the months of January, February, and March. Mr. Grayson asked Mr. Newman how ABBS will process walk-in registrations. Mr. Newman explained that walk-in registrations will be located at different locations at sporting goods stores, schools, businesses, and Saturday registrations at Oscar Frazier Park. ABBS plans to also start an advertising program now to utilize all local newspapers to publicize registration and ask for

volunteers to assist in concessions, and assist with field maintenances. Ms. Hagood asked what type of maintenance ABBS will perform on fields. It was explained that maintenance will include scheduling lining the fields and working with the County to assist in taking care of the fields. The volunteers will assist in opening and closing of fields as well as assist umpires. Mr. Brown asked if the registration fees will increase. Mr. Newman explained that ABBS is currently working on a fee schedule. Their goal is not to raise fees. Currently ABBS accepting bids on equipment, umpires, etc. and will try to stay local on bids to offset prices.

Mr. Middleton thanked Mr. Newman and Mr. Adams for honoring the Board's request for an update in hopes that the conflict of the ABBS takeover can now rest.

PARD REQUESTS

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 \$28,723.41. 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, Town of Bluffton, Town of Hilton Head, Town of Port Royal, and Beaufort County based on population.

Beaufort County received \$16,946.81 (includes Town of Bluffton's \$861.70) to be used for renovations to the Bluffton Center Playground area. The City of Beaufort will use their allocation of \$2,585.11 to do some work at Southside Park. The Town of Bluffton has elected to allow Beaufort County to use funds (\$861.70) and is included in the County's allocations.

The Town of Hilton Head will use their allocation of \$7,180.85 to upgrade the Island Recreation Center Playground. The Town of Port Royal will use their allocation of \$2,010.64 to update the playground equipment at the Lenora Drive Park.

The next step for PARD is to go to the Legislative Affairs 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. Miller asked the board to motion to allow PARD to be sent to the Intergovernmental Committee. It was motioned by William Grayson and second by William Brown to accept the PARD allocations recommendations as received. The motion was moved and passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Hagood reported on the called Program Committee meeting regarding fee schedules. Topics discussed at the meeting included fees for opening and closing fields, fee schedules for private and public entities, field linings, and concession and gate fees. Public and private entities would be responsible for all fees incurred for an event. Non-profit (501c3) companies will be not be charged for field usage but will be responsible for paying electricity and opening/closing of field fees. Mr. Stern asked Mr. Grayson asked if the fees will apply to all facilities or just fields. Mr. Grayson clarified that it included all facilities indoor and outdoor. After a brief discussion of differentials between indoor and outdoor costs, it was requested by Mr. Grayson to schedule another meeting for the Program Committee to meet to further discuss the fee schedules. William Brown requested a list of PALS facilities available for rental.

DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Northern Beaufort – John Miller, Jr. reporting

- A. Fort Fremont Park – Working with Cullen Chambers, Executive Director of Fort Screven and Tybee Island, to create a Preservation Plan. PALS received an incomplete plan in October in which Cullen plans on completing by November 20, 2008. Once the plan is received, PALS will move forward with other projects for Fort Fremont.

- B. Crystal Lake Park – There are no changes on negotiations. TPL is still negotiating with St. Peters. St. Peters Church will have an independent appraisal done. Once the appraisal is complete, the church will then set a purchase price based on the results. The land will be purchased with funds through Trust for Public Lands. The negotiations process should be completed by late Winter or early Spring.
- C. Senior Services Center – Scheduled to be completed by first week of December.
- D. Agnes Major Center Lease Agreement – Attorney Lad Howell looked at it and suggested some amendments to send back to the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Grayson asked if PALS can do all we can to complete this process. Mr. Miller explained that Lad Howell has taken Kelly Golden's place as County Attorney. Mr. Brown reinforced that Mr. Howell was the County's Attorney before and did an excellent job and he is looking forward to his speedy completion of this lease agreement.
- E. Burton Wells Phase II – Project is on hold for now.
- F. Basketball Registration – 43% reduction. Mr. Hill asked if registration will be extended. Mr. Miller responded that Mr. Penale and he will discuss an extension after the meeting.

Southern Beaufort – Joe Penale reporting

- A. Altamaha - Completed. Hours of operation will be Monday through Thursday from 10 am – 5pm and Saturday from 10 am – 5 pm.
- B. Buckwalter Community Park – Recreation Center project has been tabled by Public Services Committee. There was an issue with the bid selection and it will be addressed later this month.
- C. Athletic Specialist position – Jacob Abrams, recently hired to replace Ronnie Moore, has resigned due to health issues. The position will be re-advertised.
- D. Bluffton Center Gymnasium – The gym is incomplete. The gym floor will be the last to be completed. Mr. Stern asked Mr. Penale will the completion of the gym be done by the start of basketball season. Mr. Penale explained that it will be close but it is supposed to be complete.
- E. The Bluffton Center Tennis Courts – Estimates are expected to come in for resurfacing the courts. The funds to resurface will be paid for through PARD funding and grants through the Tennis Association.
- F. The Bark Park at Buckwalter – People for the Bark Park will be paying for this development.
- G. Skate Park at Buckwalter – There will be a kick-off meeting to discuss placing a skate park at Buckwalter on next week. Mr. Penale will keep the Board posted. Mr. Brown asked Mr. Penale to please check PALS' blanket liability insurance through NRPA for coverage of injuries in a skate park.
- H. Lights for Buckwalter Park – Process is moving along to have them in place by next season since PALS will be losing the stadium for next year.

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, December 4, 2008 at 2:30 pm at the Burton Wells Recreation Center, Burton, South Carolina.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 PM.