

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Conference Room
Beaufort Industrial Park, Building 102
Thursday, January 7, 2010
2:30 PM

Board Members Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
William Brown
Terry Dingle
Norman Varnes

Board Members Absent: Allan Stern, Vice Chairman
Robert Anderson
Ronald Campbell
Michael Manesiotis

Staff Present: Morris Campbell, Community Services Director
Cristina Roberson, PALS Director
Joe Penale, PALS Deputy Director
David Hughes, Engineering Department
Sherry Jones, Assistant to Directors
Billie Lindsay, Planning Department

Guests Present: Colonel Jim Braden, Boy Scout Troop 1712
Nicole Dixon, Town of HHI Planner & HHI Parks and Recreation Commission
Daniel Gafeen, HHI Parks and Recreation Commission
Jack Hamrick, HHI Parks and Recreation Commission
Jenny Horne, SGA Architects
John McCann, HHI Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman
Robert Moore, HHI Parks and Recreation Commission
Patrick Pernell, SGA Architects
Marian Rollings, Parent
Nathaniel Rollings, Boy Scout Troop 1712
Roy Rollings, Parent
Marc Stuckart, HHI Parks and Recreation Commission

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Middleton at 2:35 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION FOR FORT FREMONT PROJECT

Mr. Middleton introduced Nathaniel Rollings, Boy Scout Troop 1712, who chose Fort Fremont as his Eagle Project. Nathaniel explained that the idea for building the steps at Fort Fremont came from experiences of not having a safe way walking up the embankment from four-wheeler and golf cart usage. A set of fifteen (15) steps were created for the side of the embankment which consisted of a box filled with sand and covered by several inches of gravel. The boxes were then placed in the ground and covered by steps. The base stairs consists of three steps and the remainder stairs consists of four steps up the embankment. Each set of stairs were placed eight and a half inches apart. Mr. Middleton explained that Nathaniel's project has solved a number of safety

and mobility issues with the site. The site now offers an easily accessible way up the side of the embankment. Mr. Middleton urged everyone to visit the fort and the progress that has been made in preserving it. Mr. Middleton thanked Nathaniel for his efforts and courage completing the project. Ms. Rollings added that Nathaniel gave great consideration and thought into this project such as keeping the rise of each tier below County standards for handrails. Colonel Braden thanked PALS for the opportunity and look forward to future collaboration on projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Middleton asked that everyone introduce themselves in the room since there was a full audience. There were no public comments.

BURTON WELLS PHASE II CONCEPTUAL PLAN PRESENTATION

Ms. Roberson introduced Jenny Horne and Patrick Pernel of SGA Architect, whom have been given the opportunity to assist with developing Burton Wells Phase II. Jenny Horne presented a Burton Wells Phase II Conceptual Plan powerpoint presentation to introduce the various phases of the project to the Board which included demographical information. The phases will incorporate sixty nine (69) acres of land. Phase IIa will consist of gathering place, open spaces, three picnic shelters/pavilions, lake and island, one mile walking trails, parking area, and fishing inlets near lake. Phase IIb will consist of additional parking, walking trail, splash pad, playground, and completion of 69 acres. Phase IIc will consist of covered basketball court and skate park. Billie Lindsay asked if the consideration has been given to connectivity to neighborhoods. Ms. Horne explained that consideration has been discussed to extend some sidewalks to some local area neighborhoods. Ms. Varnes asked if the pond will contain some type of aeration device. Ms. Horne explained that it will contain some type of aeration system. Mr. Middleton thanked Ms. Horne for her presentation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. PALS Participation and Programs Update – Ms. Roberson reported on the success of the following 2009 All-Star Teams that represented Beaufort County in championships for Northern Beaufort County: Soccer State Champions - 10U Co-ed; Soccer State Runner-up - 12U Boys; Football - Upper State Runner-up; and Southern Beaufort County: Soccer State Champions - U10 Girls, U10 Boys, U13 Co-ed, and U17 Co-ed; Soccer State Runner-Up - U15 Boys; Football - 9U Upper State Champions and State Runner-up. Ms. Roberson reported Buckwalter Recreation Center's Grand Opening was an honor to participate in and see results of hard work performed by the staff to complete the project. PALS has hired three Recreation Leaders for Bluffton, Buckwalter, and Lind Brown Centers. Basketball season has begun with practices and games will begin on Thursday, January 7th. PALS will be registering for Spring Baseball, Soccer, and Softball beginning January 11, 2010. PALS staff is working on developing a marketing and advertising plan to publicize PALS in the community. The department has been working closely with the County's Public Information Department to get the word out about PALS with local media which may include a regular segment on the County Channel that will include interviews by staff discussing projects and services at their perspective sites.
- B. Fiscal Report – Ms. Roberson distributed the requested fiscal report to the Board members present for review. She reported that as of January 7, 2010, PALS has expended 41% of its budget and is on target. PALS staff is in the process of reconciling the bank statements to ensure all funds are accounted for. Once the process is complete the Board will receive a quarterly report at the next Board meeting.
- C. Lady's Island Park – Ms. Roberson reported on Lady's Island Park. The Planning Department has been notified that the Army Corp of Engineers has mailed the wetland delineation approval.
- D. Buckwalter Skate Park Update – Mr. Penale reported on the progress of the skate park. The contractor has completed the initial site work, rough installation of piping and rough grading. The concrete contractor has completed prefabrication of concrete forms, working on forming special shapes and directing forms. It is too cold to place any structural concrete so the contractors will continue working on framework and reinforcing steel until temperatures return to normal.
- E. Parks and Recreation Development (PARD) Funds Update – Mr. Penale reported on the status of PARD projects. PALS currently has four approved projects from 2008 and 2009 Fiscal Years which are: resurfacing Beaufort Tennis Courts, resurfacing Dale and Scott Center Basketball Courts, fencing for Bluffton Recreation Center, and playground for Bluffton Recreation Center. PALS has obtained a proposal from a state contractor for the playground equipment, will obtain approval, and issue a purchase order by next week. The completion date for the playground is May 2010. The County is currently accepting informal bids for the fencing project. PALS is awaiting Mr. Kubic to sign off on the contractor to resurface the basketball courts. The County will begin to take informal bids on the tennis courts within the next two weeks. All resurfacing and the fencing projects have a projected completion date of October 2010. Mr. Brown asked if local

contractors can be primary contractors or must they be subcontracted by a larger corporation based on scale of project budgets. Morris Campbell, Community Services Director, explained that local contractors are encouraged to bid. The County opens bids to all contractors and bids are awarded to the company that can complete the job effectively and efficiently.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Middleton announced to the Board that there are issues that must be addressed but due to not having a quorum, decisions will be made at the next meeting. Mr. Middleton also thanked Mr. Bill Evans and Mr. William Grayson, in their absence, for their dedication to the PALS Board and hope them success in their future endeavors. Chairman Middleton thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 2:30 PM at the Beaufort Industrial Village, Bldg. 2 in Beaufort, South Carolina.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 PM.