

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

Conference Room
Beaufort Industrial Park, Building 102
Thursday, March 1, 2012
2:30 PM

Board Members Present: Arthur Middleton, Chairman
Ronald Campbell
Chuck Culpepper
Terry Dingle
Tom Ertter
Mike Manesiotis
Al Stern, Vice Chairman
Norman Varnes

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joseph Penale, PALS Interim Director
Denise Hamrick, PALS Administrative Assistant

Guest Present: Morris Campbell, Community Services Director
Alan Eisenman, Finance Department
Shannon Loper, Finance Department
Viki Hill, PALS Aquatics Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Arthur Middleton, Chairman of the Advisory Board, called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. The pledge of allegiance was said by all.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2, 2012 MINUTES

The minutes from the February 2, 2012 Advisory Board meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

PALS INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The January Interim financial statement was presented by Alan Eisenman, Finance Department. The numbers are unaudited and available on the web site at BCGov.net, Departments, Administration, Finance, Financial Reports, Fiscal Year 2012, Third Quarter, PALS Financials. The General Fund FY12 Revenues are at \$301k and 48% of budget while the Expenditures are at \$1.75m and 56% of budget. The General Fund FY11 Revenues were at \$302k and 63% of budget while the Expenditures were at \$2.1m and 60% of budget. Our Special Revenue Funds are as follows: PALS Capital Program is \$17k Fund Balance; PALS Impact Fees are \$1.97m Fund Balance; State PARD Grants have a zero Fund Balance; Summer Nutrition Program is \$34k Fund Balance and Special Events are \$7k Fund Balance. Our Special Revenue Funds – Impact Fees are: Daufuskie - \$483 Fund Balance, Bluffton - \$945k Fund Balance, Port Royal - \$805 Fund Balance, Lady's Island - \$177k Fund Balance, and St. Helena - \$815k Fund Balance.

INTERIM DIRECTOR REPORTS

AQUATICS: Viki Hill gave the Aquatics presentation. There were several slides showing the various usages of the pools. There are four County pools, three indoor pools (Battery Creek, Beaufort, and Bluffton) and one outdoor seasonal pool (Lind Brown). The indoor pools are 25 yards with 6 heated lanes and are opened year round. The Lind Brown pool is zero depth entry leading to a 25 yards, 5 lane deep end. Water features includes spray jets, bubble section, umbrella and slide. The indoor pools offer the following:

- School swim lessons throughout the school year for all 2nd and 3rd graders. Each pool has about 60 students for a combined total of 1.680 per school year.
- Water aerobics at all indoor pools
- Masters Swim Team at Beaufort and Bluffton. Beaufort has over 50 swimmers that practice on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. Due to their growing numbers, they are looking to add morning practices on Monday and Friday. They have also won numerous State titles over their 22 years of existence. The Bluffton team practices on Monday and Wednesdays. This team is also growing.
- All of the indoor pools have high school teams which meet seasonally from July through October. They practice Mondays through Fridays. We also host meets throughout the season.
- There is an age group team at the Bluffton pool. This year round team has approximately 106 swimmers and is growing. They finished 5th overall in the SC short course championship in Greenville.
- We also offer group and individual lessons at all pools. We have beginners to stroke improvement, fitness swimmer to junior lifeguard (guardstart), children and adults. We have Triathlon clinics. In the summer there is a big demand for classes for the girls and boy scouts to earn their badges.
- We offer Lifeguarding, Water Safety Instructor, CPR/AED, and First Aid classes. We currently have 3 instructors. The Lifeguard and WSI classes are 30 hours long and there is usually a high demand for these classes. We also hold recertification classes.
- The pools are available for rentals, birthday parties, kayaking, and scuba.
- The fire department and law enforcement use the pools for numerous training classes.

The Lind Brown pool is a seasonal pool opened from Memorial Day to Labor Day. There are two swim lesson sessions offered here in the summer. There is a bog draw from summer camps, especially PALS camps and church groups. The pool is also available for parties and family reunions.

There needs to be more publicity about the location of the pools as many people are not aware that the Beaufort County pools located at the schools (Battery Creek and Beaufort) are actually opened to the public also. Viki mentioned that we are continuously looking for Lifeguards. We currently have six opening. Mike mentioned that the Island Rec pools were salt water pools and had we thought about that for our pools as a way to save money. Viki said she would look into the matter. Viki also mentioned that signs are now on the doors advising the public that the pools are available for their use even though they are located at the schools. However, there still needs to be some more marketing the availability.

ATHLETICIS: Shannon Loper gave the athletics presentation and what we can expect for the Spring. She said that the 9-10 Basketball All Stars were going to playoffs in Seneca for the state championships. The U12 Basketball All Stars were going to playoffs in Columbia. There will be four upcoming travel ball tournaments—April 21, May 26, June 9, and June 23. Around the second week of July there are going to be state tournaments for the Dixie Junior Boys (13 years old) and the Dixie Boys (14 years old) to be held at Burton Wells and Oscar Frazier. We would like to have one grand opening ceremony and then split off to run the tournaments for the 24 teams. Joe said that basketball is up 71 kids from last year. The Spring sports registrations so far indicate that we are looking pretty good. Baseball (without Dixie Boys) is at 543 this year compared to 647 last year. Softball (without Softball Belles) is at 125 for this year compared to 142 last year. Soccer is 314 for this year compared to 527 for last year. There is still another week of late registrations to go.

PROJECT UPDATES: Joe gave the presentation. There were various slide shots of the **Buckwalter soccer field** showing the third full size soccer field, We took over the soccer field on Tuesday and will schedule this field for our Spring sports. **Lady's Island Park** is moving right along with a playground, landscaping has been filled in. The first ball field should be ready in a couple of weeks with the

second one being ready around Fall. **Burton Wells Phase II** should be completed in the next couple of weeks. The banks are unstable until the grass grows. We anticipating an opening date sometime in May.

BLUFFTON RECREATION CENTER RUNNING TRACK

Joe presented a proposal to construct a running track behind the Bluffton Recreation Center at a cost of \$90,000.00 Impact Fees. The school system replaced the McCracklen Stadium with the early education center and a walking track around their multipurpose field and playground. It is all connected and used for walking. You can't use it for track and field events. If we were to have track and field events/programs, we would use the school across from Buckwalter just as we did for the Senior games. Joe thinks we would be repetitive. Based on the information received, the proposal was denied.

FY 2013 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Al Stern, Finance Chairman, presented the FY2013 proposed budget. The bottom line is \$3.2m which is roughly 17% more than the revised budget for FY12. When you look at where the increases and decreases are look at Aquatics. You'll see that there's about \$120k increase to refurbish the pools. If they are not refurbished in the near future, we stand the possibility that DHEC will shut us down. If you consider this as a one time cost every few years the actual budget has gone down 20% from 2012 to 2013 if you strip out that \$120,000. So the actual budget has gone down 20%, our participation numbers have stayed the same or gone up, I think the budget is realistic and phenomenal. Also if you go back to 2010 from 2010 to 2013 the budget has gone down \$98,000 over a period of three years while our numbers are up significantly. The budget increase of 17% is really a phoney number; it's really a decrease of almost 20%. Attached is a handout detailing each individual program.

Revenues are going up. You'll notice 2012 compared to 2013 numbers that Intersession has gone up from \$10k to \$15k, After school has gone up \$60k to \$75k, and Aquatics from \$64k to \$98k. Tackle football has gone up significantly but that's mainly from our fee structure change. Special events have also gone up significantly. The total projected increase is about \$80k based on the new fee structure and the assumption that the number of participants will not change, and of course we know they will either up or down.

The Finance Committee recommends that the PALS Board recommend approval of this budget. Tom made motion to accept the proposal as presented by the Finance Committee. It was seconded by Norman and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The executive session was not held at this time.

MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

Arthur thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The next Board meeting will be held on June 7, 2012 at 2:30 PM at the Beaufort Industrial Village, Bldg 2 in Beaufort, SC unless there is a called meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 PM.