

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

County Council Chambers
Monday, July 18, 2022
2:30 PM

Board Members Present:

Bruce Yeager, *Chairman, Southern Beaufort County*
Carlos Cave, *School District Administration – ex-officio*
Erac Priester, *Southern Beaufort County*
William McCullough, *Northern Beaufort County*
James Mack, *Northern Beaufort County*

Board Members Absent:

Phil Kiser, *At Large*
Ronald Campbell, *Northern Beaufort County*
Alan Arseneau, *Southern Beaufort County*

Staff Members Present:

Shannon Loper, *Director, Parks and Recreation*
Matt Watts, *Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation*
Antoinette Binette, *Aquatics Manager, Parks and Recreation*
Chuck Atkinson, *ACA for Development and Recreation, Beaufort County*

Guests Present:

Morgan Jeffries, *Administrative Assistant*
Scott Whitehead, *Citizen*
Janay Hayes, *Citizen*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by **Bruce Yeager**.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were completed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda is approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES

Will McCullough motions to approve the May minutes and **James Mack** seconds. The motion passes.

Bruce Yeager asks how the increase in sports pricing has been going. **Shannon Loper** states that there have been no complaints.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Shannon Loper:

- **Lind Brown Update:** Usage Report (per visit/check in):
 - January: 24
 - February: 22
 - March: 44
 - April: 131
 - May: 394
 - June: 398

- **Downtown Tennis Update:** Work is steady and moving forward, but rain has not been helpful. Hopefully there will be concrete down and more progress by the next Board meeting.

- **Bathrooms Updates:** Currently waiting on BJWSA (Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority). The RFP is to be advertised July 29 and will go through the end of August. Project will go to committee September 15 for approval. The bathrooms are being done at Old Burton Wells and Bruce Edgerly.

- **Bluffton Pool Updates:** Interior renovation (rust treatment, prime, paint) is 99% complete with minor punch list items. Second/last delivery of roofing panels and the backordered bolts arrived June 27. Purlins are painted. Still on schedule for completion by mid-August. **Bruce Yeager** asks about the plan for insulation. **Shannon Loper** states she isn't sure, but that spray insulation was discussed, and the HVAC system is being replaced. The roof will still be metal.

- **Seniors Program:** Began on July 1. We have set up an active program, including trivia games, baking, gardening, and jewelry making. Bluffton Center is growing quickly and can accommodate 100 seniors if necessary. Advertising the program has been through traditional marketing, visiting churches, and an interview with local media. Our brochures are displayed at Springer Home.

Participation (Seniors):

- Bluffton: 31
 - Booker T: 29
 - Burton Wells: 27
 - Port Royal: 12
 - Scott Center: 14
 - St. Helena: 27
- **Master Plan Update:** As of July 6, 163 completed surveys. Survey goal is 300. An advertisement has been placed on Facebook and additional surveys were mailed out. We received some complaints from citizens stating the survey was too long. 400 surveys were mailed out originally. The mailed surveys are random. The mailed surveys are more heavily weighted for decision making due to internet surveys being more easily manipulated by parties with specific interests. The mailed surveys are randomized by a third-party company to ensure that the County population is properly represented.
 - **Adult Softball:** Currently, Bluffton open league rules are that a player must be 18 to play with adult softball. The minimum age to play with adult softball in the church league is 16. There is discussion of having only open leagues for 18 and over.
 - **Discussion:** There is discussion in which it is verified that a person is legally considered an adult at 18 years of age. Church leagues would still be able to sign up as their own church team for open league adult softball. Board members further discuss that although some 16-year-old individuals have the talent to play with adults, there could be questions of liability. This is strictly a Beaufort issue, as there are no church leagues in Bluffton. Parks and Recreation will proceed with eliminating church leagues and having one open league, whereby eliminating the issue of players under 18 participating, and ensuring that the church leagues will still be able to play and register as their own church teams. No action is needed by the Board.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Matt Watts:

- **Registration Numbers: Summer 2022**
 - **Beaufort:**
 - Youth Summer Basketball – 160
 - Adult Baseball – 79
 - Adult Church Softball – 5 Teams (117 Participants)
 - **Bluffton:**
 - Youth Summer Basketball – 383
 - Adult Co-Ed Kickball – 7 Teams (86 Participants)
- **Fall Youth Sports Registration**
 - Ends Friday, August 5th (late registration August 6th – August 12th)
- **2022 Dixie Junior Boys and Boys State Tournament**
 - **Junior Boys**
 - Champions – Central-Clemson
 - Runner Ups – Beaufort County
 - **Dixie Boys**
 - Champions – Hilton Head
 - Runner Ups – Cayce West Columbia

AQUATICS

- **Program Updates:**
 - **Indoor Pools**
 - **Battery Creek:**
 - Pool Hours (Until Bluffton Pool is Reopened):
 - Monday – Friday: 8:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-7:00PM
 - Saturday – Inflatables: 10:30AM-4:30 PM
 - BOGA Classes:
 - Tuesday and Thursday: 6:15PM-6:45PM
 - FINS:
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 4:30PM-7:30PM
 - High School:
 - Tuesday, Thursday: 4:30PM-7:30PM
 - **Beaufort Pool:**
 - Pool Hours:
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-7:00PM
 - BOGA Classes:
 - Monday and Wednesday: 6:15PM-6:45PM
 - Water Aerobics Classes:
 - Monday and Wednesday: 1:30PM-2:30PM
 - **Outdoor Pool – Lind Brown:**
 - Pool Hours:
 - Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-7:00PM
 - Sunday: 1:00PM-7:00PM
 - **Classes:**
 - Group and Private Swim:
 - Year Round
 - Stroke Improvement:
 - Year Round
 - CPR:
 - By Appointment
 - Lifeguard Classes:
 - Beaufort High – August 5th-12th

EMPLOYEE UPDATE

- **Admin:**
 - 2 FT Admin Clerk
- **Aquatics:**
 - Lifeguards:
 - 5 Full Time Open
 - 4 Part Time Open
- **Maintenance:**
 - 4 Open
- **Athletics:**
 - 1 Assistant Athletic Manager
 - 1 Athletic Supervisor
- **Rec Aides:**
 - 4 Open

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board meeting is Thursday, September 1, 2022, in Bluffton.

QUESTIONS

Bruce Yeager asks, regarding **Mr. Stefonick's** presentation and request at the last Board meeting, if a pump track is already being included in the master plan. **Shannon Loper** states that there is a BMX track in the Burton Wells master plan.

Bruce Yeager allows **Mr. Hayes** to introduce himself, as **Mr. Hayes** was late and missed the public comment portion of the meeting. Mr. Hayes states that he appreciates what Parks and Recreation is doing and he hopes to help get more youths in his community involved.

ADJOURN

There is a motion to adjourn. The motion is seconded. The meeting is adjourned.