

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Buckwalter Recreation Center
Thursday, November 02, 2023
2:30 PM

Board Members Present:

Bruce Yeager, *Chair, Southern Beaufort County*

Phil Kiser, *Southern Beaufort County*

Alan Arseneau, *Southern Beaufort County*

Mark Rennix, *Northern Beaufort County*

Board Members Absent:

Bill Brown, *Military ex-officio*

Jonne Hayes Sr., *Northern Beaufort County*

Carlos Cave, *School District Administration ex-officio*

Robert Schoch, *Southern Beaufort County*

Ron Campbell, *Northern Beaufort County*

Staff Members Present:

Bob Rozek, *Athletics Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*

Jeremy Way, *Marketing Coordinator, Parks and Recreation*

Shane Stager, *Assistant Athletics Manager, Parks and Recreation*

Darrell Ketola, *Athletics Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*

Alexander Hunt, *Assistant Athletics Manager, Parks and Recreation*

Brandon Whitener, *Athletics Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*

Evan Christian, *Athletics Manager, Parks and Recreation*

Jack Fripp, *Grounds Maintenance Superintendent, Parks and Recreation*

Natasha Dortch, *Fiscal Technician, Parks and Recreation*

Heather Clint, *Senior Administration, Parks and Recreation*

Antoinette Binette, *Aquatics Manager, Parks and Recreation*

Hank Amundson, *Special Assistant to the County Administrator and current Parks and Recreation Director*

Guests Present:

Rob Mondavi, *Holy Trinity School*

Daniel Blackmon, *President, Northwest Quadrant Neighborhood Association*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by **Bruce Yeager**. There is no quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were completed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bruce Yeager asks for an addition to the agenda, which is to approve the 2024 board meeting dates. **There is a motion to add that item to the agenda and all agree. Agenda is approved.** **Bruce Yeager** addresses **Rob Mondavi** and verifies that **Rob Mondavi** is attending this meeting to make a change to a previously agreed upon fee change. **Bruce Yeager** states that when there is a quorum, **Rob Mondavi** can bring his case to the board for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Blackmon, President of the Northwest Quadrant Neighborhood Association comes for public comment. Mr. Blackmon states that the Charles Lind Brown Center has been neglected for at least ten years by the County. He states that Hank Amundson has met with Mr. Blackmon at the Center and reviewed the improvements that are needed, and that maintenance issues have begun to be addressed. Mr. Blackmon states that programming is needed at the Center, and that the population nearest to the center is elderly, and that they don't always use the website. He states that his group would be willing to put programming information in his group's newsletter. There are various dates throughout the year on which the Northwest Quadrant Neighborhood Association meets, and Mr. Blackmon would like to waive the rental fee for eight meetings. **Bruce Yeager** states that we can address this request when Mr. Blackmon sends exact dates and information.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Alan Arseneau motions to approve the September minutes and **Phil Kiser** seconds. **The motion passes.**

ACTING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Personnel Change:**

Hank Amundson states that he has had a chance to work closely with staff of the Parks and Recreation department, and that it is very encouraging to have this team in place. There have been personnel changes that we need to move forward from, and a great discovery has been getting to know this team. **Bruce Yeager** states that he has known **Shannon Loper** for over thirty years and that her many years of service are appreciated. **Hank Amundson** agrees and states that she also built the Parks and Recreation team that will allow the department to keep working and moving forward.

- **Operational Update:**

- **Director**
- **Deputy Director**
- **Athletics:**
 - 1 Athletic Supervisor Open
 - Recreation Aides-Part Time: 2 Positions Open

- **Aquatics:**
 - Lifeguards:
 - 7 Full Time Open
 - 3 Part Time Open
- **Administration:**
 - Admin Clerk-Part Time: 1 Position Open
- **Grounds Maintenance:**
 - Grounds Maintenance Tech:1 Position Open
- **Programs:**
 - Program Supervisor: 1 Position Open
- **Current Registration Numbers:**
- **Registration Numbers Youth:**
 - **Fall Sports 2023**
 - Beaufort
 - Baseball: 197 (up 72)
 - Flag Football: 100 (up 5)
 - Soccer: 470 (up 47)
 - Softball: 60 (up 10)
 - Cheer: 44 (up 11)
 - Bluffton
 - Baseball: 335 (up 38)
 - Flag Football: 284 (no change)
 - Soccer: 973 (up 153)
 - Softball: 166 (up 17)
 - Cheer: 48 (down 5)
 - **Sports Winter 2023**
 - Beaufort
 - Basketball: 272 (up 38)
 - Bluffton
 - Basketball: 926 (up 77)
- **Registration Numbers Adult:**
 - **Sports Fall 2023**
 - Beaufort
 - Baseball: 66 (down 3)
 - Bluffton
 - Volleyball: 64 (up 23)
 - Softball:
 - Adult: 649 (up 65)
 - Seniors: 125 (down 10)

Bruce Yeager states that he likes to see the registration numbers from year to year, season to season, but would also like to see multi-year reports. **Hank Amundson** agrees and states that the department will be working on the quality of all things, including facilities, equipment, and programs. The department will also be working on improving partnerships with other organizations. **Alan Arseneau** asks for the status of referees and umpires and asks if we post our needs on social media. **Evan Christian** states that we do post these needs on social media and our website. **Hank Amundson** states that a good meeting was held with Bluffton Youth Sports and that there are codes of conduct in place at Parks and Recreation to help mitigate issues between parents, coaches, and referees. He states that the athletics team will be more empowered to enforce these codes of conduct.

- **Senior Program Update:**
 - Current Enrollment Numbers:
 - Bluffton: 23
 - Booker T: 25
 - Burton Wells: 41
 - Port Royal: 40
 - Scott Center: 27
 - St. Helena: 39
 - Dale: 16
 - Lind Brown: 9

Hank Amundson states that **Marisa Freeman** has built the senior program at Port Royal and has now been promoted to Senior Program Manager of all centers. The department has had some issues with transportation and vehicles, and we have been addressing those issues. The senior program goals are nutrition, socialization, and activity.

- **Upcoming Tournaments:**
 - **SCAP Soccer**
 - **State Tournament**
 - Girls Soccer-Mauldin, SC (8U, 10U, 12U)
 - Bluffton & Beaufort qualified in all age groups.
 - November 18 & 19
 - 15U Beaufort vs Bluffton November 16 (Burton Wells)
 - Boys Soccer-Clemson, SC (8U, 10U, 12U, 15U)
 - December 2 & 3
 - **District Tournament**
 - Boys Soccer-Beaufort, SC (8U, 10U, 12U)
 - November 14 and/or 16
 - Beaufort, Bluffton, & Orangeburg

AQUATICS

- **Program Updates:**
 - **Indoor Pools**
 - **Battery Creek:**
 - Pool Hours:
 - Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-7:00PM
 - Saturday – Inflatables: 10:30AM-4:30 PM
 - Youth School Swim Lessons:
 - Monday-Thursday – 9:00AM – 12:00PM
 - Swim Teams:
 - FINS – Tuesday and Thursday: 4:00PM – 6:30PM
 - Patron Check In:
 - September: 662
 - October: 562
 - Margin: -100

- **Beaufort Pool:**
 - Pool Hours:
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM - 12:00PM and 1:00PM - 7:00PM
 - Water Aerobics Classes:
 - NEW HOURS: Wednesday: 3:15PM - 4:30PM & Friday: 10:00AM – 11:15AM
 - Youth School Swim Lessons:
 - Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM – 12:00PM
 - Swim Teams:
 - FINS – Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 4:00PM – 6:30PM
 - Patron Check In:
 - September: 924
 - October: 806
 - Margin: -118
- **Bluffton Pool:**
 - Pool Hours:
 - Monday - Friday: from 8:00AM – 12:00PM and 1:00PM - 7:00PM
 - Saturday: Inflatables from 10:30AM–4:30PM
 - Water Aerobic Classes:
 - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8:30AM – 9:30AM
 - Deep Water: Tuesday & Thursday: 2:00PM – 2:45PM
 - Youth School Swim Lessons:
 - Monday – Thursday: 9:00AM – 12:00PM
 - Swim Teams:
 - FINS: Monday – Friday: 2:30PM – 7:00PM
 - Patron Check In:
 - September: 1176
 - October: 1967
 - Margin: +791
- **Classes Offered:**
 - Group and Private Swim
 - Stroke Improvement
 - CPR Classes
 - Lifeguard Training
 - Water Safety Training

Bruce Yeager asks about the contract between Beaufort County and the School District regarding the pools. Hank Amundson states that there will be a meeting with the School District regarding contract discussions. Bruce Yeager is looking forward to having more budgetary information for the department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board meeting is Thursday, January 11, 2024, in Beaufort. **This meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2024, in Bluffton.*

Bruce Yeager states that he met **Hank Amundson** one time prior to this meeting and the role of the board was discussed. He states that the recreation department has grown five-fold in the last ten years, and that he appreciates Hank and the staff. **Bruce Yeager** asks about the hiring process for director. **Hank Amundson** states that a job description is being crafted that reflects exactly what is expected of the new director. The previous job description no longer applies, due to the growth of Beaufort County and the Parks and Recreation department. He would like one of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members to be involved in helping to make the decision. **Bruce Yeager** suggests that **Phil Kiser** and/or **Mark Rennix** would both be good choices for that involvement.

Alan Arseneau motions to accept the 2024 meeting dates as presented. All in favor, and the motion passes.

Bruce Yeager states that 'ex-officio' members should be full voting members of the board, but legislation may have to be changed to get that done.

QUESTIONS

None.

ADJOURN

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