

BEAUFORT COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Buckwalter Recreation Center
Thursday, November 6, 2025
2:30 PM

Board Members Present:

Bruce Yeager, Chairman, *Southern Beaufort County*
Phil Kiser, *Southern Beaufort County*
Alan Arseneau, *Southern Beaufort County*
Jonne Hayes Sr., *Northern Beaufort County (via Zoom)*
Christian Kata, *Northern Beaufort County*

Board Members Absent:

Carlos Cave, *School District Administration ex-officio*
Elizabeth “Buffy” Computaro, *Northern Beaufort County*
Mark Rennix, *Northern Beaufort County*
Ariel Perry, *Military ex-officio*

Staff Members Present:

Heather Clint, *Administrative Manager, Parks and Recreation*
Shane Stager, *Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation*
Darrell Ketola, *Athletics Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*
Antoinette Binette, *Aquatics Manager, Parks and Recreation*
Evan Christian, *Athletics Manager, Parks and Recreation*
Robert Rozek, *Athletic Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*
Faranica Reynolds, *Assistant Recreation Manager, Parks and Recreation*
Eric Brown, *Director, Parks and Recreation*
Jeremy Way, *Marketing Coordinator, Parks and Recreation*
Natasha Dortch, *Fiscal Technician, Parks and Recreation*
Scott Schnee, *Athletic Supervisor, Parks and Recreation*
Lindsey Epling, *Assistant Senior Program Manager, Parks and Recreation*

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTRODUCTIONS

Bruce Yeager welcomed **Christian Kata** to the Board. **Christian Kata** stated that he was representing Northern Beaufort County. He was on the Board is 2015 and is happy to be back. **Bruce Yeager** also stated that **Ariel Perry** has been added to the Board as the Military ex-officio.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bruce Yeager asked for a motion to approve the agenda. **A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded, and the agenda was approved.**

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2025, MINUTES

Bruce Yeager asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting. **A motion was made. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

DEPARTMENT REPORT

- **Operations**
 - **Recreation Centers**

Check-in & Footfall Report: Footfall analytics now included in monthly usage reports:

- We have adjusted the totals by subtracting 30% to account for non-visitor traffic (e.g., deliveries, patron exiting through the entrance, etc.).

Patron Check-Ins:

• Buckwalter	Check in	Footfall Count
September 2025	4076	Unknown / Error
October 2025	4479	13,319
September 2024	3428	N/A
October 2024	3882	N/A
• Burton Wells	Check in	Footfall Count
September 2025	438	3250
October 2025	733	2895
September 2024	298	N/A
October 2024	412	N/A
• Charles Lind Brown	Check in	Footfall Count
September 2025	184	N/A
October 2025	147	N/A
September 2024	230	N/A
October 2024	309	N/A

Heather Clint explained the footfall and check-in numbers and how they were figured. **Heather Clint** stated that she is subtracting 30% from Buckwalter, due to people going out the enter door and 50% for Burton Wells for the same reason. **Bruce Yeager** asked to be reminded what footfall means. **Heather Clint** replied that they are small counters that pick up when a person goes through the front door of the rec centers. There was an error with the one at Buckwalter in the month of September. **Heather Clint** continued to explain, for Oct. 2025 check-in was 4479. That is the number of people that have checked in to use the facility, the footfall number is for anyone that has entered the center for example, people coming in for rentals, events like the tax sale. People come to the center for other things. They are not checking in at the front desk. **Heather Clint** also stated that for basketball the footfall numbers will go up due to spectators going in and out. **Bruce Yeager** stated that there was a lot of footfall happening at Burton Wells. **Heather Clint** replied that programming has picked up and that helping with that number as well. **Heather Clint** went on to discuss the other events that have taken place at our facilities. Beaufort County Assessor's Office held their annual Delinquent Tax Sale event at Buckwalter. This event was held in gyms 1 and 2 as well as both classrooms. **Bruce Yeager** asked if this was the first time this event was at Buckwalter. **Heather Clint** responded that it was not. **Bruce Yeager** asked about the condition of the floor covers. **Shane Stager** replied that they are showing some wear. **Heather Clint** continued explaining that Nexus Care held a staff retreat that was hosted through Beaufort County Drug and Alcohol. It was at our Burton Wells gym. **Eric Brown** did some ice breakers at the event. Public Works had a training conference that brought people from neighboring states to the event. There were vendors set up in the hallway. It was held in gym 1 as well as both classrooms at Buckwalter. **Bruce Yeager** asked if we were charging for these events. **Heather Clint** replied that if they are part of Beaufort County Council government, we do not charge them.

- Athletics

Beaufort Fall Sports Upcoming

- Fall Adult

Sport	2024	2025	Margin	Registration Start / End Date
Baseball	68	99	+31	Registration 9/1 – 9/26
Basketball	36	17	-19	Registration 9/22 – 10/17

- Winter Youth

Sport	2024	2025	Margin	Registration Start / End Date
Basketball	258	288	+30	Registration 9/1 – 10/10

Rodrick Sawyer stated that this year, flag football will have an end of season all-star tournament. They will be taking the best players from all teams to hold the all-star tournament. Since this is the first year, the coaches are looking forward to it. We are looking to hold this again in the future. The adult baseball season is now underway. Adult kickball, the registration just opened, registration will end on the 31st of December, with the season beginning in January. **Rodrick Sawyer** also went on to say basketball season is getting ready to start, with practices beginning in a few weeks and that will be at Burton Wells. **Bruce Yeager** asked if kickball was a winter sport. **Rodrick Sawyer** replied that there are 2 seasons, summer and winter. Our winter season will start the second week of January. **Bruce Yeager** questioned why the slide stated Beaufort Fall Sports Upcoming if it is fall but Kickball is played in the winter. **Rodrick Sawyer** stated that registration beings in the fall, the season starts in the winter. **Bruce Yeager** asked if we had changed the way of adult baseball registration and if the new way was working well for us. **Rodrick Sawyer** stated that the new registration has helped. Free agent players are added to teams and players are enjoying playing. **Bruce Yeager** asked how many teams there were and where they were playing. **Rodrick Sawyer** stated that there were 6 or 7 teams, and they were playing at Burton Wells on fields 1 and 3. Games are on Mondays and Wednesday around 6:30pm.

Bluffton Upcoming Leagues

- Winter Youth

Sport	2024	2025	Margin	Registration End Date
Basketball	932	876	-56	Registration ends 10/17

- Winter Adult

Sport	2024	2025	Margin	Registration End Date
Kickball	167	21	-146	Registration ends 12/21

Evan Christian stated that fall sports had just ended. The only sports that are still ongoing are baseball and softball and they will be ending on the 14th of November. Flag football ended with an end of season tournament; this is the second year that **Bob Rozek** has done it. Soccer season has also ended, and all stars are getting ready to begin. Cheer has also wrapped up. The only youth sports currently are baseball and softball. Adult volleyball finished with a tournament last night. Adult softball is going on and should end around the first week of December. For upcoming leagues, we have youth basketball. Basketball registration is at 885 as of today. **Darrell Ketola** is pulling off the wait list due to kids making the school teams. **Bruce Yeager** asked about the 932 number, if that was the final number from last year and if we could reach that number or possibly more for this season. **Evan Christian** stated that we would probably end in the 900 range. Adult kickball registration just opened with about a month, and a half left to register. Last year we had 12 teams. **Bruce Yeager** asked if that was co-ed. **Evan Christian** stated that it was.

- **New Programming, Tournaments Updates, Misc. Data Athletics**

- Top; Gun Softball Tournament
 - November 22 at both Oscar Frazier and Burton Wells
- SCAP District Soccer Tournaments
 - 8u, 10u, 12u and 15u boys at Burton Wells November 13th and 15th
 - 8u, 10u, and 12u girls at Burton Wells November 13th and 15th
 - 16u girls Bluffton vs Beaufort (best of 3)
- DYS State Tournament
 - 12u and 15u
 - June 20 – 23 at Burton Wells

Evan Christian stated that the Top Gun Tournament is coming up on the 22nd. It will be at both Burton Wells and Oscar Frazier. They will be using 6 fields for the tournament. SCAP District Tournament is coming up as well. They will be held at Burton Wells. The Bluffton and Beaufort teams playing will be on Thursday nights. On Saturday Orangeburg will come for the 10u and 12u co-ed. The 16u girls will play the best out of 3 whereas in the past we sent them to the State Championship. **Bruce Yeager** asked if this will be played in one afternoon or over a couple of days. **Evan Christian** replied that they will play one game in Beaufort, a few days later they would play in Bluffton and then back in Beaufort if needed. The last tournament that we will be hosting is the Diamond Softball Tournament for 12 and 15u girls. That will be on the 20th and 23rd of June 2026, at Burton Wells. **Bruce Yeager** asked how large the tournament will be. **Evan Christian** replied that last year, 12u had 12 teams and 15u had 4 or 5 teams. These games will be played simultaneously throughout the weekend. Opening ceremony should be on the 19th. Due to Juneteenth, the opening will be moved to the 20th. That may delay the start of the tournament. **Bruce Yeager** asked if we were still involved in baseball, at one point we were involved with Dixie Boys or Dixie Youth. **Evan Christian** explained that it is still Dixie. Throughout the district, the age divisions rotate around. For example, last year we hosted AA, Beaufort hosted Ozone, Hilton Head hosted Minors. **Bruce Yeager** mentioned that he was speaking about the State Tournament. **Evan Christian** replied that State Tournament goes out for bid. **Bruce Yeager** asked if that was something we were doing. **Evan Christian** stated that we had taken a break from the World Series. He believed that it was booked until 2027, but it was something that we may look for in the future. **Bruce Yeager** commented he was aware no new baseball field has been built, and that we had reallocated some things, like Ulmer for the younger kids and was hoping that they were being used. **Evan Christian** stated that they were being used nightly. **Bruce Yeager** asked how we were with field space for baseball. There was a reply, but it was inaudible.

- **Senior Program**

- Centers
 - Bluffton Center
 - Booker T Washington
 - Burton Wells Center
 - Dale Center
 - Charles Lind Brown Center
 - Port Royal Center

- Scott Center
- St. Helena Center

Information from “Senior Program Update” slide:

Booker T Washington has officially reopened, and the participants are settling in and enjoying the upgrades. Construction at Scott Center has been delayed but the participants have been relocated to the Gloria Potts Center. Highlighted field trips and events from the past two months: Farmer’s Market in Columbia, Mighty 8th Museum, lunch at Ma Daisey’s to support a new local business, Crab Boil and Pamper day.

- Meals served and delivered for September and October
 - Home Delivered Meals (HDM): 1435
 - Group Dining: 1757

Lindsey Epling reported on the Senior Program. Booker T was under renovation for several months and they are finally back in the center, and they are loving all the upgrades. It turned out beautiful. **Eric Brown** will speak on the renovations and delays at Scott Center. 140 seniors went to the State Fair in Ladson for Senior Day. They traveled on Parks and Recreation buses as well as charter buses. They played bingo as well as visiting tents that were there. They were no rides open. We served 1757 meals to our group diners that go to the centers daily. We also delivered 1435 meals to our homebound clients. These meals are delivered on Mondays. **Bruce Yeager** asked if this was a one day a week delivery. **Lindsey Epling** replied that it was. The meal boxes contain 5 frozen meals. **Bruce Yeager** also asked how many people we were servicing in our Senior Program. **Lindsey Epling** replied that it was about 180, not everyone comes every day. They come for the activities that they like. We are constantly getting referrals from LOCOG as well as pulling people off the waiting list. There are people that want to come but transportation is a problem. **Bruce Yeager** stated he thought that in the past we had some discussion of the centers and how people were getting there. But we are constantly growing. **Bruce Yeager** stated that we are servicing all the people that we can with the funding and resources that we have. **Bruce Yeager** also mentioned that we did get some vans for transportation. **Lindsey Epling** stated that we did, and we hoped to get more in the future.

- **Aquatics**

Battery Creek:

- Pool Hours:
 - Monday – Thursday: 8am – 9:30am / 2pm -7pm
 - Friday: 8am – 1pm / 2pm -7pm
 - Saturday: 8am -1pm (lap swim)
- School Swim Lessons:
 - Monday – Thursday: 9:30am – 12:30am
- Water Aerobics:
 - Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm – 6:30pm
- Patron Check Ins:
 - September: 746
 - October: 528

Beaufort Pool:

- Pool Hours:
 - Monday – Thursday: 8am – 1pm / 2pm – 7pm
 - Friday: 8am – 1pm / 2pm – 7 pm
 - Saturday: 8am – 1pm (lap swim)
 - 1st Saturday of the month Inflatables 11am – 4:30Pm
- School Swim Lessons:
 - No Lessons until January 2026

- Programs:
 - Water Aerobics: Wednesday & Friday: 10am – 11:30am
 - Scuba: call to schedule – Ken McCracken
 - School Swim Team: BHS: Finished for the season
- Patron Check Ins:
 - September: 1267
 - October: 744

Bluffton Pool:

- Pool Hours:
 - Monday – Thursday: 8am – 9:30am / 2pm – 7pm
 - Friday: 8am – 1pm / 2pm – 7pm
 - Saturday: 8am – 1pm (lap swim)
 - 1st. Saturday of the month inflatables: 11am – 4:30pm
- School Swim Lessons:
 - Monday - Thursday: 9:30am – 12:30pm
- Programs:
 - FINS Swim Team: Monday – Friday: 5pm – 8pm
 - School Swim Teams:
 - BHS & MRHS: Finished for the season
- New Programs:
 - Water Aerobics: Coming Soon
- Patron Check Ins:
 - September: 1694
 - October: 2033

Alvin Settles Pool:

- Pool Hours:
 - Closed for the season
- Patron Check Ins:
 - July: 3,213
 - August: 507
- Events Coming Up:
 - Doggy Day: September 6
 - 10am – 11:30am: small dogs up to 50lbs.
 - 11:45am – 1:15pm: big dogs over 50lbs.
 - The Great Pumpkin Splash:
 - October 17th (BLF Pool) 6pm – 8pm
 - October 24th (AS Pool) 6pm – 8pm

Anny Binette began with the Battery Creek Pool: the hours have stayed the same. We have our school swim lessons from 9:30am until 12:30pm. We are not open to the public during that time. Battery Creek has water aerobics, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30pm until 6:30pm. Check-ins for the month of September was 746 and October was 528. **Bruce Yeager** asked if the swim teams swim at Battery Creek. **Anny Binette** stated that they do not. **Bruce Yeager** asked what attributes the difference in the check-ins to. **Anny Binette** stated that she believes it has to do with the weather being colder. Bruce Yeager stated even though it is indoors. **Anny Binette** said that is what she believes. For Beaufort Pool has the same hours. When school swim lessons are going on the pool is closed to the public. The next session for school swim lessons will begin in January. Water aerobics is on Wednesday and Friday. We haven't had Scuba class recently, but the instructor is still interested

in holding classes at our facility. The high school swim team has just finished. Check-ins for September were 1267 and for October was 744. That number decreased due to the swim team being finished. **Bruce Yeager** asked if Beaufort Pool held Fins practice when Bluffton Pool was closed. **Anny Binette** replied that it was Battery Creek Pool. Bluffton Pool has the same hours. School swim lessons are from 9:30am until 12:30pm, and the pool is closed to the public during this time. Fins are still at the pool, and they are there Monday through Friday in the afternoon. High school swim teams have ended. We do have water aerobics starting soon. Check-ins for September were 1694 and October was 2033. **Bruce Yeager** asked how much of that round number was for the swim team. **Anny Binette** stated that the last time she checked it was around half the check-in number. With the school swim lessons that number should go up. **Bruce Yeager** asked how the public were responding to the renovations of the pool. **Anny Binette** stated that everyone noticed all the improvements, and they like them. Everyone that comes from the Beaufort side says they would like it on the Beaufort side. **Phil Kiser** asked if the numbers were coming back up. **Anny Binette** stated that they have going up. **Bruce Yeager** asked how many people participate in water aerobics. **Anny Binette** stated the water aerobics that we had prior to the closure had about 18 to 20 participants. This time we will have a new instructor, but we believe the ladies that were previously attending will come back. **Bruce Yeager** asked if this was primarily a ladies' activity. **Anny Binette** responded that men are welcome to join, and we do have some men on the Beaufort side. **Anny Binette** went on to discuss The Pumpkin Splash. She noted that it was a great hit, and she would like to do it in the future. One was held at Bluffton Pool. There was supposed to be one at the Alvin Settles Pool, but it was moved indoors due to the cold weather. With it being moved indoors the response to the event went up. **Bruce Yeager** asked to have The Pumpkin Splash explained. He mentioned all the pictures and said maybe next time we could have a video. **Anny Binette** stated that all the lanes are moved out to the side of the pool, all the pumpkins are put in the middle of the pool. The kids get to jump into the water, swim around and get the pumpkin that they want. When they get to the side of the pool, they can put stickers on their pumpkin or paint them. When they were dry, they were able to take their pumpkin home. **Bruce Yeager** asked whose idea was the pumpkin splash. **Anny Binette** stated that it was hers and **Faranica (Vedah) Renyolds**. She also replied that **Vedah Renyolds** helped a lot. **Bruce Yeager** stated that in a million years, he never would have thought of a pumpkin splash. **Anny Binette** stated that it was always something she thought about but never know how to get it started. So, **Vedah Renyolds** helped a lot. **Bruce Yeager** stated that it was something like dog day. **Anny Binette** replied that it was like that, but the pumpkin splash was a bigger hit. **Anny Binette** went on to say that we are going to try a penguin splash. That will be in December. **Bruce Yeager** remarked that everyone would bring a penguin. **Anny Binette** said no they will not, we are hoping the penguin splash turns out to be as good as the pumpkin was. **Phil Kiser** asked what the penguin splash was going to be. **Anny Binette** stated that this will be like the pelican plunge that people are aware of that happens on New Years Day. This will not be on New Years Day. The pelican plunge is something that you do to start the New Year. This event will be held in December. **Bruce Yeager** asked if this will be done at the indoor pool. **Anny Binette** stated that it will not be indoors, it will be held at the Alvin Settles pool. If the weather is bad, it will be moved indoors.

- **Recreation**

- **Events:**

- Past:

- The Great Pumpkin Splash
 - Trunk or Treat (Charles Lind Brown & Buckwalter)
 - Lowcountry Volleyball Clinic

- Upcoming:

- Warming up to Winter

- **Camps & Clinics:**

- Upcoming:

- Youth Dodgeball Clinic – Bluffton
 - Adult Dodgeball Tournament – Bluffton
 - Vanilla Extract Workshop – Both
 - Sugar Scrub Workshop – Both
 - Winter Camp – Buckwalter
 - Pickleball Clinic – Beaufort
 - Unity Drum Circle – Bluffton
 - Floor Hockey – Bluffton

- **Programming Updates:**

- Programs at Wesley Felix starting Spring 2026
- Programs at Broomfield starting Spring 2026
- Programs at Bluffton Center, registering now
- **Programs:**
 - Current:
 - Tone it Thursday at Charles Lind Brown
 - Bridge at Charles Lind Brown
 - Line Dancing at Charles Lind Brown
 - Country Line Dancing at Buckwalter
 - Zumba at Buckwalter
 - Chair Yoga at Buckwalter
 - Jungle Body at Buckwalter
 - Gentle Yoga at Buckwalter
 - Table Tennis Club at Burton Wells

Faranica Renyolds and **Brock Vaughn** gave the report together. **Faranica Renyolds** began with events. We helped with the pumpkin splash. We also held the truck or treat at Buckwalter and Charles Lind Brown. We had a great turnout. Quite a few community partners came out to help with the event. We also hosted a low country volleyball clinic, here at Buckwalter. **Bruce Yeager** asked if these were kids that participated. **Faranica Renyolds** said it was. **Brock Vaughn** spoke about the upcoming camps and clinics. We have a winter camp coming up on the 22nd and 23rd of December. We have 10 to 12 kids already; registration just opened for that on Monday. We have a youth dodgeball clinic and an adult dodgeball tournament. We have several different workshops, vanilla extract and sugar scrub coming up. There is a pickleball clinic that will be starting after the new year. We have a unity drum circle and finally we have floor hockey. Registration for that just opened as well, we have 20 kids already registered. That will be on a Tuesday. **Brock Vaughn** also stated that after the new year our programming will start expanding to other facilities as well. We are trying to bring programming, camps and clinics to both Broomfield as well as Agnes Major starting in the spring. **Faranica Renyolds** mentioned the warm up to winter event that is coming to Burton Wells on the 22nd of November. It is an event that is open to the public, they will be giving things away. **Faranica Renyolds** went on to discuss the programs that are currently going on. Tone it Tuesdays and tone it Thursday, bridge and line dancing are going on at the Charles Lind Brown center. We also have chair yoga, jungle body, gentle yoga and table tennis going on as well. **Bruce Yeager** asked how many people participate in these events. **Brock Vaughn** stated that for the trunk or treat we had about 200 people at Buckwalter and over 500 people at Charles Lind Brown. **Brock Vaughn** mentioned that it was so crowded that we may have to change the location in the future. Dodgeball clinic is 70% full, we have 26 kids and that registration opened about a week or two ago. The adult dodgeball has a bit less. **Brock Vaughn** noted that we have 2 teams so far. **Bruce Yeager** asked about the vanilla extract and the sugar scrub workshops. **Brock Vaughn** stated that they are not where we would like them to be. Being that this is a new department we are trying to see what works and what does not. We are trying to get our name out to the public and let them know that we are doing these types of things. Right now, the vanilla extract has 6 people registered. **Bruce Yeager** mentioned that doesn't explain what they are. **Faranica Renyolds** said that a gentleman named Jack has a vanilla extract business. We reached out to him to see if he would like to do an event, he is going to come and show people how to make vanilla extract. People will pay the fee, and we supply all that is needed for them to make the vanilla extract. The sugar scrub is also a workshop. There will be a series of workshops, one Wednesday a month, with a variety of instructors. **Bruce Yeager** commented he doesn't know about the other board members, but from his perspective, when he looks at the slide, there are a lot of things going on. We need varied programming that people will enjoy and utilize. **Bruce Yeager** went on to say that it would be helpful to have participant numbers or maybe the capacity or percentage of capacity to see how effective programming is. **Bruce Yeager** mentioned that he has seen jungle body listed in five meetings, so that is going well. **Eric Brown** stated that these are 70/30 programs. **Bruce Yeager** said he understood that, but we need to know how effective the program is. **Bruce Yeager** addressed the board and asked if they had questions. There was discussion about becoming accredited.

ORGANIZATION UPDATE

Directors Report

- **Training Updates**
 - Admin, Aquatics, Recreation and Deputy attended NRPA in September

- Recreation, Senior Recreation, and Director will attend Carolinas Recreation & Park Conference in December.
 - Grounds Maintenance will be attending Southeast Sport Field Management Conference and Trade Show in November.
 - Marketing will attend an SCRPA Marketing Workshop in November.
 - Multiple staff members will attend Defensive Driving course in November.
 - Heather Clint and Faranica Renyolds have substantially completed their participation in the Emerging Leaders Program.
 - Heather Clint will be staying on to serve as President for the following term.
- **Facility Updates**
 - BRACE (Buckwalter Recreation Athletic Complex Expansion)
 - RFP dropped 10/10; bids due 12/9
 - Oscar Frazier
 - Field 1 barrier netting changes to outfield and right field in progress
 - Buckwalter / Burton Wells
 - Buckwalter gym lighting (gym 1/2) completed EOM October
 - Agnes Major Center, Wesley Felix (New Construction Planning)
 - Pre-construction meeting underway
 - Site work expected to start Q4 / 2025 or Q1 / 2026
 - Senior / Community Centers
 - Scott Center – construction pending re-bid process
 - Bluffton Center – renovations planned to start 12/1/2025
 - Charles Lind Brown
 - Construction underway; existing flooring removed, backboards and curtain replaced
 - Main project on hold for required electrical upgrades

Shane Stager gave the following update: At the last meeting we discussed new goals for the upcoming year. One of them was training. Several employees went to NRPA in September. **Shane Stager** stated that he went to several accreditation meetings to kind of get a foothold on what that really meant. Several employees are going to the Carolina Recreation and Park Conference in December. **Eric Brown** will go there and attend various workshops. Our grounds maintenance team will go to their Southeast Sports Field Conference and Trade Show. Marketing will attend the marketing class that is part of SCRPA. Multiple employees have attended Defensive Driving, that will continue over the next couple of months. This is a requirement for us to be good drivers. **Heather Clint** and **Faranica Renyolds** went through our Emerging Leaders Program. Congratulations to them. **Heather Clint** will stay on as their president for the upcoming year. Big news with facility updates. The soccer field expansion at Buckwalter, went out for bid, middle – end of October. Bids are due on the 9th of December. **Bruce Yeager** asked how many fields we were adding and if they were going to be grass or turf. **Shane Stager** replied that we are adding 4 fields, and they will be turf. Oscar Frasier netting went in; they needed to make some tweaks to the left field and the outfield. This will sure up places where we need more security. Buckwalter, gyms 1 & 2 had the lighting fixed. The new senior centers, Agnes Major and Wesley Felix are in the pre-construction phase. They are looking to break ground the beginning of December for both facilities. Scott Center construction is going back to be rebid due to the winter. Bluffton Center includes a redo of the main floor and a new elevator. Then the seniors can use the upstairs as well. That will start in early December. Charles Lind Brown, they completely gutted the gym. They put in new nets and a new curtain. There needs to be electrical updates there as well. Several new staff members have been hired over the past 2 months. We have hired more staff. 2 full time lifeguards, 2 part time lifeguards, a recreation coordinator, a full-time bus driver as well as a part time bus driver. We are still looking for full-time assistant athletic manager, a recreation leader and some more recreation aides. We are also looking for our seasonal help, camps and lifeguards. Eric Brown began with Agnes Major and Wesley Felix; we are looking to break ground this year. The BRACE projects that are being done are the 4 soccer fields, parking lot and restrooms. There were at least 20 companies that bid on the project. We are looking forward to getting that project started at the beginning of next year. Scott Center remodeling will be like Booker T; it will be gutted out and redone. The seniors at Scott Center are currently at Gloria Potts Center. **Eric Brown** stated that we are looking forward to hosting the National Baseball Tournament for Dixie Boys again. We hope to bid for 2028 or 2029. **Jonne Hayes** asked about the Scott Renovations. He asked if the renovations included the ball fields as well. **Eric Brown** stated that the renovations were for the building only. **Jonne Hayes** asked who would be responsible for the fields and concessions. **Eric Brown** stated that they would be taken away. He was unsure of how much could be done because they are not in good shape. We are looking to remove them but would like to have something there where people are going to use them. **Eric Brown** replied

that we are working hard through recreation to bring people back to using those fields. **Brock Vaughn** created a plan for the St. Helena area, and he will work on putting that into place. **Bruce Yeager** asked the question again about getting new baseball fields. **Eric Brown** replied that this was one of the things that was explored last year and was put into CIP. It goes out for bid and then needs to be prioritized based on the elected officials on what can be done. **Eric Brown** also noted that we would need more land to have more baseball fields built. We are asking for 2 million dollars to redo Mc Rielly, making it a nice stadium. **Alan Arseneau** asked if that is just redoing, not expanding. **Eric Brown** stated that it was to make it playable. It would make it so we can host games and tournaments there. **Bruce Yeager** commented that it is a good thing. He also mentioned it was close to Oscar Frazier **Eric Brown** stated that when you look at the demand, soccer fields are in demand. **Eric Brown** noted that tennis was in demand prior to him coming on board and now it is not. **Alan Arseneau** stated that he thinks there is a demand on the baseball and softball side due to the growth we have had. **Alan Arseneau** also stated with the growth of the adult baseball teams and all the travel teams there is a demand. **Eric Brown** stated that based on the numbers that are shown at our meetings, the demand is soccer. **Bruce Yeager** mentioned that baseball fields can be multipurpose. He also stated that improving something we already have is less expensive than building brand new. **Eric Brown** stated that for the demand of baseball fields we need more land. **Bruce Yeager** stated that even if someone donated the land it would still be a 2-million-dollar cost if not more. **Phil Kiser** asked about Hampton Lake if there wasn't talk about that property west of Hampton Lake. **Bruce Yeager** replied that Hampton Lake did not want to. **Eric Brown** commented that he would investigate the land west of Hampton Lake. **Phil Kiser** replied that property became passive park. **Bruce Yeager** commented that he appreciated the good job that Parks and Recreation was doing for the county.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bruce Yeager mentioned the next meeting will be on Thursday January 8, 2026, at 2:30, at Burton Wells.*

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

*Location for January meeting has since been changed to County Council Chambers in Beaufort.