

Recreation Advisory Board
APRIL 11, 2013
5:30pm

Minutes

Members Present: Buck Jolly, Herman Little, Bill Sterritt, Danielle Horwat, David Kleinschuster, and Letitia Evans. Also present were City Manager Rich Olson, County Manager Rodney Bunch, and Bobbi White.

Mr. Buck Jolly called the meeting to order.

A moment of silence was observed.

Minutes from March 2013 meeting were approved.

No comments from the public.

Old Business:

Mr. Olson gave an update on the 2013-2014 budget. Mr. Olson stated that the budget had been presented to the City Council and County Commissioners for review. He stated the total Parks and Recreation budget is \$1,682,326 with the County's 55% portion being \$925,279 and the City's 45% portion being \$757,047. Mr. Olson stated at the March Recreation Advisory Board meeting that the committee was asked for their top priorities and they were:

- 1.Partitions at KCRC
- 2.Bulkhead at Charles Creek
- 3.Football Field at Sheep Harney
- 4.Dog Park at SPCA or Fun Junktion
- 5.Concrete table at Waterfront Park
- 6.Stadium property purchase

On the subject of the stadium property purchase it was stated that the Webster property owners do not want to sell at this time, however they would give us first refusal. Dr. Sterritt asked if \$100,000 was the property purchase price. Mr. Olson responded no, this is just a plug number. When asked about the property behind South Park, Mr. Olson responded the City owns L-shaped area and it is not enough to build a stadium. There have been no conversations with any more property owners and it is not known if they would sell. Dr. Sterritt stated that the County is in budget deliberations. Mr. Bunch stated the County can look at the budget at their meeting on Monday. Mr. Olson stated the operating budget is pretty stagnant. Mr. Herman Little asked where is the City's old Fairgrounds property? Mr. Olson responded beside Perry Paint and Glass, but there is a large V ditch running through the property and that it is a major drain for KFC, Pritchard Street, Mill Street, and Church Street areas.

Dr. Sterritt asked about the \$500,000 Bike Trail Grant. Mr. Olson responded that it should be spent in the next calendar year and the trail would be from Forest Park to Church Street area near the Lowry property. There has been easement issues. He stated this is a City expenditure, no County funds. Mr. Jolly asked if Tanglewood Park Developers have to provide sidewalks on their property. Mr. Olson responded no, they paid \$25.75 per foot in lew of sidewalks. Mr. Olson stated the project was staked yesterday and there are still some conflicts that need to be worked out. He stated the

City is working with 6 property owners. Mr. Olson added the money must be spent under contract by December 2013.

Dr. Sterritt asked about the County's 55% being \$925,279, which is more than last year. Mr. Olson responded yes, last year's amount was \$810,209. The Capital projects made the figure increase over the last year. Mr. Olson stated that amount reflects this Board's top three priority Capital Projects.

Bobbi White gave the Board an update on Parks and Recreation for the month of March. Mrs. White stated that the water fountain at River Road has been installed.

Dr. Sterritt stated he wants the PAL football field to be regulation size so that NHS or other groups can play on it.

Herman Little asked where is the Mack Sawyer and Rochelle building. Bobbi White responded that it is the building next to Mariners' Wharf Park.

New Business:

Mr. Jolly stated that the basketball courts at Enfield Park were full on Sunday and he thought he was watching the NCAA.

Mr. Jolly stated that he would like to remove two pine trees from Edgewood Park for the safety of the children; pinecones, needles and dead limbs and it would open the park. Mr. Olson stated that the trees have been inventoried and found to be healthy. He added the trees are on the GIS system and due to them being healthy they do not qualify for removal, but can be trimmed. Dr. Kleinschuster stated maybe put up a posted sign at Edgewood about falling limbs. Mr. Little asked about the Tree Committee cutting the trees. Mr. Olson responded the City hired a professional arborist in 2011 and 2012, Dogwood, Pines, etc and that all property in Elizabeth City was inventoried. Bobbi White stated she would bring back the list from the Tree Committee at next meeting. Herman Little asked how often do they inventory. Mr. Olson responded the money came from a grant and inventory is done every 3 years to determine condition and health of the trees.

Mr. Jolly asked about the Carolina Cup Regatta this year and Bobbi White stated it had been canceled.

Bobbi White updated the Board on the Potato Festival being held May 18th and advertising in Livability Magazine.

Herman Little made motion to adjourn. Dr. Kleinschuster seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bobbi White