

MINUTES

June 20, 2023

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Catherine Cotrupi, Ms. Nancy Brossoie, Mr. Mark Layne, Dr. Rick Slavings, Mr. Joseph Johnson and Mr. Greg Holbrook-Director of Parks & Recreation, Mr. David Ridpath – City Manager, Mr. Seth Gillespie – Council Liaison, and Ms. Mandy Martin – Senior Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Abram Williams, Mr. Dan McKinny and Ms. Donna Wolfe

- A. Call to order by Ms. Cotrupi and asked for the roll to be called.
- B. Roll was called.
- C. Dr. Slavings moved to approve the April 17, 2023 minutes as written. Seconded by Ms. Brossoie. The Commission passed the motion, 5-0.
- D. **Old Business**
 1. Canoe/Tubing Update by Mr. Holbrook
 - Weather has been problematic
 1. Cold & Rain/Flooding
 2. City has hired Mr. Pallante for other services to help compensate for loss of business
 - Canoe/Tubing Service will operate during July 4th until 5pm
 - Radford News Journal to do a story on the business
 2. Update on Joe Hodge Field Renovations by Mr. Holbrook
 - Scoreboard still needs to be installed
 - Improvements include:
 1. New Dugouts
 - a) Vaulted Roof
 2. New Water Lines
 3. Bathroom Pipes Updated
 4. Replaced Fencing
 - A Lowes grant was applied for upgrades on ballfields and playgrounds. Joe Hodge Field is 50 years old and need renovations. Decision on who is awarded the grant will be announced in June.
 - High School Bleacher Seats will be available after the Football Season and will be used at the following locations:
 1. Hodge Field
 2. Veteran's Field
 3. James Oakley Field
 - Once Hodge Field is completed it was suggested to have a rededication/opening day next year and invite the Hodge Family

3. July 4th Update by Mr. Holbrook

- Schedule of Events
- Music
- Program & Vendors
- Games
- Live Remote by WBRF 98.1 FM
- Shuttle bus schedule
- Fireworks by Third Security

4. Update Banners and Signs by Mr. Williams & Mr. McKinney

- The Banner Program has had a good response
- Alcohol Policy for banners was discussed and agreed upon that a business can submit their logo but it must be without reference to alcohol.
 - The youth baseball/softball leagues that the Recreation Department are affiliated with have a no alcohol advertising policy.
 - The schools also have a no alcohol advertising policy for their ballfields.
 - VHSL also has a no alcohol advertising policy.
- Pricing for the banners are:
 - Ballfields - \$800 for banners at all four fields. The next year \$500 for 4 fields. These are mesh 4'x6' banners.
 - Rec Center - \$500 for banners displayed year round. These are long lasting signs that could last for 10 years. These are vinyl 3'x5' banners.
 - Rec Center & Ballfields are \$1,000
 - After the cost of the banner ordered, the remainder of the amount will be split evenly between the Recreation Department and the Chamber of Commerce.
- Mr. Ridpath suggested Thank You banners with QR codes & list of sponsors.
- Motion to accept banner policies was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Dr. Slavings. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Pickleball/Tennis Courts Update by Mr. Holbrook

- Weather has been an issue
 - Cold weather - Must be above 50 degrees to work on resurfacing
 - Rain – Must be dry to resurface
- 3 Tennis Courts will be on the roadside
- 8 Pickleball Courts will be on the riverside.
- Expansion of more outdoor courts was discussed.

6. Update on Senior Liaison

- Ms. Mandy Martin was announced as Senior Liaison. She was warmly welcomed by the Committee.
 - She was vice chairman of the Recreation Commission for many years.
 - She has served in the community for a number of years.

7. Update on sidewalks at Bisset Park Shelters

- Handicapped sidewalks extend for the parking lot to the shelters
- All three shelters have been installed with sidewalks

8. Update on John Dobbins Park
 - The Artwork Sign has been installed.
 - It was suggested to have a presentation unveiling with the artist
 - Playground equipment will have new updates
 - Good turnout for Dedication of Playground
 - Neighborhood is appreciative of the new playground

E. New Business

1. Update on Recreation Sports.
 - Cal Ripken Baseball Tournament at the end of June
 - Area Teams are attending
 - Tournament is a 3 day tournament
 - Rain is a concern
 - Tickets will be sold at this tournament
2. Sisson Park
 - New playground equipment ordered and will be installed
 - New Roof will be installed
3. Veteran's Field
 - New Roof has been completed
4. Bisset Park
 - Welcome Sign Mural
 - Artist would like to present ideas at the next meeting
 - Would like to incorporate local landmarks and places
 - Welcome in different languages

F. Liaison Comments

1. **Council Liaison** - Council Member, Mr. Seth Gillespie
 - Dedication for James Oakley Field Playground went well
 - Excited about July 4th
 - Recommended putting in a Splash Pad for the park instead of a pool
 - Commission will look into it
 - Va Park & Rec Grant could be obtained for \$25,000
 - Parking was discussed
 - Thanked Mr. Ridpath and Mr. Holbrook for getting trees planted in the park in honor of his grandmother
2. **City Liaison** – City Manager, Mr. David Ripath
 - Bathrooms needed at 3rd Shelter
 - Commended Public Works & Recreation Department for keeping up with repairs and emergencies that arise
 - Wants the Commission to keep a lookout for any upgrades or repairs needed in the parks and facilities
 - City looking to expand the trail to Rock Road
 - Suggested putting a new building at Shelter #3 for the Canoe/Tubing and moving the building at the old pool lot to the Recreation Center.

G. Directors Comments

- Karate Camp will be the end of June
 - Brings business to the City of Radford

H. Commission Comments

- Mr. Layne suggested that the Commission go and observe the Canoe/Tubing Operation
 - Field trip was scheduled for the Commission

I. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Layne and seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion passed 5-0.