

**Richland County Recreation Commission  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2012  
6:00PM**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

J. Marie Green, Chair  
Barbara Mickens, Vice Chair  
G. Todd Weiss, Secretary  
Wilbert Lewis  
George Martin  
Weston A. Furgess, Jr.

**RCRC Staff in Attendance:**

James Brown, III  
Ronnie Kinnett  
Taurus Lewis  
Tara Dickerson  
Curtis Wilson  
David Stringer  
Comilla Sampson  
Leigh Cheatham  
Connie Reaves  
Robert Allen  
Bob Hickman  
Ben Busbee  
Kenny White  
Lefunzo Wright  
Cornelia Watts

**Others in Attendance:**

James E. Bridgett, Jr., Consultant/Parliamentarian  
Joey Holleman, State Newspaper

**1. Call to Order:**

Chair Green called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. and welcomed any special guest.

**2. Adoption of Agenda: (Action)**

**Motion to adopt the agenda made by Commissioner Furgess and second by Commissioner Lewis. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Lewis, Furgess, Martin Mickens and Weiss.**

**3. Approval of Minutes: (Action)**

**Motion to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2012 Board Meeting made by Commissioner Weiss and second by Commissioner Lewis. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Lewis, Weiss, Furgess, Mickens and Martin.**

**4. Public Input**

Mr. Peter J. Gregoire spoke on behalf of the Palmetto Table Tennis Club as to the benefits that it provides to the community in its instruction of our youth. Mr. Gregoire reported that the chairperson is an Olympic trainer and certified in training the youth and all of the equipment is purchased by the club. Mr. Gregoire stated that they had free play for two years and now they don't and he wants to know what constitutes a sport in this county that is entitled to free play.

Commissioner Lewis stated that as he understood the question, Mr. Gregoire is asking for our policy on which sports constitutes free play and he would pose to staff to check for such a policy that addresses this particular question and if there is not a policy to bring it to the Board's attention. Staff can then gather the information and respond to this question.

Chair Green stated that Mr. Gregoire will receive the information once staff has done the research.

Mr. John Andrews spoke on behalf of the juniors in the Palmetto Table Tennis Club stating that since he has joined the club that he has been working with Joel to train and better himself and that he has also worked with another junior, Jane, who could not come tonight because of her school work. Mr. Andrews stated that between table tennis and Jane, that he has been trying to lead a healthier life and working to build a better relationship with more people and he feels that free table tennis should stay so more people can come without a higher fee.

Dr. Germon Miller distributed her biosketch to Commissioners and reported that she is working with Ms. Pamela Jones at the Adult Activity Center to find the appropriate date for an event, Women's Safety Urban Awareness. Ms. Miller stated that April is youth antiviolence month and this is the end of women's month so they are attempting to put together a workshop seminar and she would like to personally invite the staff. Ms. Miller stated that she will be presenting a flyer for review.

Mr. Richard Andrews stated that he may be wrong but he believes that the tax payers did not declare when approving that bonds be sold and taxes levied to construct our public facilities that we said some sports were going to be paid sports and some sports were going to be free sports. Mr. Andrews stated that he thinks that there is a fair decision that can help all in the room and he thinks that it can be met and that it needs to be met and he looks forward to hearing from RCRC.

Chair Green asked for a clarification from patrons that presented, asking if they are saying that they are against having to pay to use the facility for their sport.

Patron stated that he needs to understand the policy. Patron added that he would like to see a fair policy across the board for any activity, whether it is under the roof or outside.

Chair Green instructed David Stringer, HR and Comilla Sampson, Compliance to share the policy with the patrons and that the patrons are free to call them for any clarification needed. Chair Green added that to her understanding and reading that Richland County Recreation Commission does have a healthy respect for their sport and she is sure that Staff will do everything possible to accommodate them.

**5. Financial Report: (Information)**

Mr. Curt Wilson, Business Systems, reviewed the cash flow chart included in the Board's package. Mr. Wilson reported that we have received the new OPEB evaluation that is done every second year and after LinRick's portion is subtracted and the deduction in payment for retirees health insurance, it will be about the same as the previous two years. Mr. Wilson reported that LinRick had the most rounds in four years for February however revenue was down because of the specials but overall for year to date they are still 11% ahead of last year.

**6. Athletic Tournament Rental Fee Policy: (Action)**

Mr. David Stringer, Human Resources, reviewed changes in the proposed policy included in the Board's package.

**Motion to approve policy changes to Policy No. 5025 as presented by Staff made by Commissioner Furgess and second by Commissioner Weiss. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Weiss, Furgess, Martin, Lewis and Mickens.**

**7. Bond Construction Update: (Information)**

Mr. Ronnie Kinnett, Property Management, reviewed the Bond Updates included in the Board's package.

**8. Executive Director Report: (Information)**

Mr. James Brown, Executive Director, reported Agency updates as listed on handout to Board.

**9. Other Business**

No other Business

**10. Executive Session**

No items for Executive Session

**11. Patron Appeal Hearing**

Mr. David Stringer, Human Resources, reviewed Patron Appeal guidelines and process regarding an incident that occurred on February 19, 2012 which resulted in a permanent suspension of Mr. Joel Mitchell.

**Patron Appeal Presented:**

Mr. Joel Mitchell presented case for why his suspension should be removed.

Management presented a short rebuttal.

**Motion to deny the appeal of Mr. Joel Mitchell in accordance with Richland County Recreation Policy 14025 made by Commissioner Weiss and second by Commissioner Furgess. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Weiss, Furgess, Lewis, Martin and Mickens.**

**Motion to adjourn meeting made by Commissioner Weiss and second by Commissioner Furgess. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Furgess, Weiss, Lewis, Mickens and Martin.**

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.

  
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J. Marie Green, Chair

Minutes approved on this 16th day of April 2012.