

Richland County Recreation Commission
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2014
6:00PM

Commissioners in Attendance:

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

RCRC Staff in Attendance:

Kenya Bryant
Ronnie Kinnett
Tara Dickerson
Andrea Fripp James
David Stringer
Tony Cooper
Kasey Wilson
James Brown, Jr.
Connie Reaves
Cornelia Watts

Others in Attendance:

James E. Bridgett, Jr., Consultant/Parliamentarian

1. Call to Order:

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

2. Adoption of Agenda: (Action)

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

3. Approval of Minutes: (Action)

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2014 Regular Board Meeting and the November 17, 2014 Special Call Board Meeting made by Commissioner Mickens second by Commissioner Weiss. Minutes approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Martin, Furgess, Mickens and Weiss.

4. Public Input:

No Public Input.

5. Financial Report: (Information)

Ms. Andrea James, Financial Operations, reviewed financial reports included in the Board's packet.

6. Proposed Rental Fee Increase: (Action)

Mr. James Brown, Jr. and Ms. Connie Reaves presented proposal as outlined in the Board's packet.

Chair Green inquired about the last time there was a fee increase and Ms. Reaves stated that there has not been an increase ever regarding the picnic shelters and Mr. Bryant pointed out that there was a participation fee increase about two years ago.

Commissioner Weiss asked if they could foresee any opposition from any groups and Mr. Brown, Jr. stated that a lot of groups that utilize the fields are independent groups and they have stated that RCRC is a lot cheaper than what they have seen.

Motion made by Commissioner Furgess to accept recommendation of Staff for Rental Fee Increase Proposal, second by Commissioner Weiss. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Martin, Furgess, Weiss and Mickens.

7. Bond Construction Update: (Information)

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

Commissioner Wilbert Lewis entered meeting at 6:10p.m.

Commissioner Furgess asked for a status report on the Caughman Road Tennis Courts.

Mr. Kenya Bryant stated that the Caughman Road Tennis Courts are on the list for improvements and there are ongoing conversations with the Columbia Tennis League.

8. Olympia Park Stream Restoration Proposal:

Mr. Ronnie Kinnett introduced Mr. Gerald Lonon with PACE Engineering and explained that this is a project that RCRC has been reviewing for Olympia Park. Mr. Kinnett stated that Kroger plans on developing the property downtown where the old baseball field was located and PACE Engineering along with Genesis Consulting has offered to do some stream restoration at no cost to the Richland County Recreation Commission which would help with some of the flooding issues at Olympia Park.

Mr. Gerald Lonon stated that the presentation to the Board at the September meeting explained the concept and they have now proceeded to the point of construction drawings. Mr. Lonon explained that the background of the project is that Kroger is obligated to alleviate flooding downstream as part of their purchase agreement for the property.

Mr. Lonon and Ms. Laura Belanger presented a slide presentation for Board review. Ms. Belanger explained that they are proposing to come in and do grading work to create a lower floodplain to help the stream have an area to dissipate energy and do some planting and rock work to stabilize the bank. Ms. Belanger added that they are also proposing to do some structures called cross base which makes a cascading water fall which allows the stream to continue the steep slope but it gives it time to slow down.

Ms. Belanger stated that Kroger will be the responsible party after permitting, required to monitor the site on an annual basis for a period of at least five years to ensure stability of the restoration project.

Commissioner Furgess questioned who would be responsible if there is a water problem on the Whaley Street end affecting the park and Mr. Lonon explained that in the long term that is an issue that has to be worked out in the second phase and we will try to get an agreement from the city or county to maintain the culvert and the stream channel through Olympia Park.

Commissioner Weiss questioned the time frame of construction and the estimate was about four to five months. Mr. Lonon added that they will need a small bit of property (60 by 100) at the upper end of culvert to dedicate to DOT for maintenance.

Chair Green questioned if the dedicated acreage needed will come from the Recreation Commission and Mr. Lonon stated that the Recreation Commission would deed over land to the DOT (60 x 100) and they would take care of the platting.

Commissioner Lewis stated that it sounds good to him but he wants to know if the surrounding communities are being kept informed about the plans as we move forward. Mr. Lonon referred to the plans pointing out a crosswalk to park and adding that the Rocky Branch Association is supportive.

Mr. Kinnett stated that this project would greatly reduce the impact of flooding in the Park. Mr. Kinnett proceeded by asking the Board to grant permission to the Kroger Company to initiate the permitting process for the work generally shown on the plans of Pace Engineering, Genesis Consulting Group and Environmental Permitting Consultants. This in no way constitutes approval to initiate the construction, which will require Commission approval of the final permitted plans and resolution of insurance, bonding and maintenance requirements.

Motion made by Commissioner Lewis to accept the recommendation of staff to move forward with permitting process, second by Commissioner Weiss. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Lewis, Weiss, Martin, Mickens and Furgess.

9. Executive Director Report:

Mr. Kenya Bryant, Assistant Executive Director, reported Agency Updates as outlined on the handout.

Mr. Bryant reported 20 contractual items for Executive Session.

10. Other Business:

Ms. Cornelia Watts, Executive Assistant, advised that January and February Board meetings fall on RCRC holidays and asked permission to schedule the meetings for the fourth Monday in each month.

All Commissioners were in accordance.

Motion made by Commissioner Furgess to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters, second by Commissioner Mickens. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Mickens, Furgess, Martin, Lewis and Weiss.

11. Executive Session

Motion to come out of Executive Session made by Commissioner Mickens, second by Commissioner Furgess. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Furgess, Lewis, Weiss, Mickens and Martin.

Commissioner Furgess reported that no votes were taken in Executive Session.

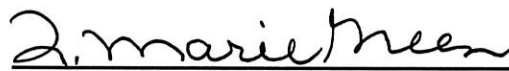
Motion made by Commissioner Furgess to accept the recommendation of Staff to sign all contract documents outlined in Exhibit A and Exhibit B, second by Commissioner Lewis.

Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Furgess, Lewis, Mickens, Martin and Weiss.

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

12. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15p.m.



J. Marie Green, Chair

Minutes approved on this 26th day of January 2015.