

**Richland County Recreation Commission
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2017
6:00PM**

Commissioners in Attendance:

Thomas Clark
Lisa Cotten
Jermaine Johnson, Sr.
Robert Lapin
Donzetta Lindsay
Stephen Venugopal

RCRC Staff in Attendance:

Tara Dickerson
David Stringer
Robert Hickman
Bryan Crider
Marta Aldinger
Connie Reaves
Kasey Wilson
Lisa Lewis-Hutcherson
Shauna Williams
Tiyana Henley
William Daugherty
Charles Eubanks
Chris Santino
Tommy Adams
Brandolyn Blanding
Cornelia Watts

Others in Attendance

Mayor Bob Coble, Interim Parliamentarian

1. Call to Order:

Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda: (Action)

Motion to adopt the agenda made by Commissioner Johnson, second by Commissioner Lindsay. Motion approved unanimously by all members present: Clark, Cotten, Lindsay, Lapin, Johnson, and Venugopal.

3. Minutes: (Action)

Motion to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2017 Regular Meeting and June 15, 2017; July 12, 2017 and August 16, 2017 Special Call Meetings made by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Lindsay. Motion approved unanimously by all members present: Clark, Venugopal, Johnson, Lindsay, Lapin and Cotten.

4. Public Input:

Gloria Brown – Member of the Parklane Enrichment Committee, questioned end results of the complaints against Lisa Smarr and voiced concerns with scheduling of classes at the center.

D’Andre Outten-Brown – Chair of the Parklane Enrichment Committee, voiced concerns regarding receiving notifications of senior programs being offered, prices for classes and the lack of user friendliness at the Park.

Barbara Roach – Member of line dance class and President of the Meadowlake Homeowners Association, requested Meadowlake walking trail separate from soccer and ball fields and also requested new chairs. Ms. Roach also noted that trash cans need to be emptied more than once a week at the Park.

Hainsley Lewis – Thanked Chair Clark on behalf of the Deputy Keith Cannon Youth Organization for attending the Back to School Bash. Mr. Lewis voiced concerns for the need of a Community Center and suggested that the Board look within the organization to fill the Executive Director position, recommending Michael Marshall and praising him for his work. Mr. Lewis also stated that Andre McCree is an excellent worker.

Ann Humphries – Member of the League of Women Voters Columbia, stated that their presence is to observe and be part of the conversation.

Robin White – Part of the Observe a Core along with the League of Women Voters, looking forward to working with the Commission and in hopes that they can contribute.

5. Financial Report: (Information)

Kasey Wilson, Financial Operations, reviewed financial reports included in the Board’s packet.

6. New Business:

David Stringer, Human Resources, presented updates for Policy No. 170 Retirement Program, Policy No. 9020 Disbursements and Policy No. 9050 Supply Inventory included in Board's packet for action.

Chair Clark stated revisit for vote after Executive Session.

Mr. Stringer reported that ten applications for the Compliance Officer received for consideration and HR is in the process of interviewing for the Adult Activity Center Manager position, Superintendent of Construction and Repair (68 applications received through ZIP recruiter) and Electrician (53 applications through ZIP).

7. Other Business:

A. Lisa Lewis-Hutcherson, Executive Director RCRC Foundation, gave update for Foundation.

Commissioner Johnson voiced concerns on amount of monies raised since 2014.

Commissioner Lindsay requested information in writing regarding the Foundation and also a list of current and upcoming events.

Commissioner Cotten requested balance sheets of monies coming in and going out.

Commissioner Lapin questioned the number of scholarships offered and also requested, in writing, how the buying and selling of property works regarding the RCRC Foundation.

Commissioner Venugopal questioned grant writing.

B. Bryan Crider, Property Management, presented updates.

C. Tara Dickerson, Chief of Staff presented updates and events as follows:

1. 30th Annual Midlands Area Senior games took place last week September 11-15 with over 80 seniors participating with the oldest Mr. Edward Taylor, 93.
2. Annual open enrollment for employee benefits will be held in the month of October.
3. The Parks Department held four Back to School events in the month of August with approximately 600 school age children receiving back to school supplies.
4. The Richland County summer camps met all standards and guidelines set by DSS, averaging 96% out of 100%. Summer camp employees and after school employees have also received additional training in lieu of happenings in other camps in the Midlands area.
5. Follow-up from last Board meeting regarding citizen input in the Candlewood neighborhood park; contacted Councilman Manning and he is working with the neighborhood council to set up a meeting to discuss this project. The project was part of the General Obligation Bond and there is still \$120,000 allocated toward this project and it was not completed because of issues with the land.

6. Contacted by a group called Cypress Equities and they would like to annex a 3.1 acre parcel to the Commission and this parcel is located at 3603 Broad River Road. The land is located adjacent to St. Andrews Park and is valued at approximately \$390,000. After staff review, the land would allow the Commission to clean up the property line and it would also offer a nice buffer from the neighborhood Walmart and other potential developments. We are working with the real estate attorney to make sure that all proper surveys are completed and if the surveys are good we will come back to the Board to ask for approval to acquire the land.
7. Contacted by an individual property owner and a liaison from South Carolina Swimming about the possibility of receiving land to build a state of the art indoor swimming facility. This land is located off Shady Grove Lane in the Irmo area and we are in preliminary talks and conducting research at this point and will bring any updates back to the Board.
8. Received a thank you card from a patron, Ms. Laura Walker, expressing how much her family enjoyed being at Garners Ferry Park for the solar eclipse, traveled from Virginia and they were delighted that it was a perfect venue with friendly and super welcoming employees.
9. Introduction of full time hire, Shauna Williams, Richland County Tennis Professional. Ms. Williams will be headquartered at the Tennis Center on Parklane and is responsible for tennis programming for the whole county.
10. Request for Waiver of Facility Use Fees from Southern Pride Rabbit and Cavy Club, requesting a reduction of fees for Bluff Road Park on December 1st and 2nd for rabbit competition. Tara stated that RCRC has partnered with the club on many occasions and they do not charge RCRC. Staff recommends 50% reduction.
Request from the Ballentine Civic Association 501 c 3 requesting waiver for use of the Ballentine Community Center after hours for annual Christmas party, which per policy they should pay 50% and at the last Board meeting a request from the Association for after hour use, the Board voted to waive fees for the next 6 months until the policy is reviewed. Ms. Dickerson stated because this is a separate event, staff presenting to Board recommending waiver of fees 100% based on Boards decision from last meeting.

Motion to accept staff's recommendation for reduction of fees for Southern Pride Rabbit and Cavy Club and defer Ballentine Civic Association until October meeting made by Commissioner Venugopal, second by Commissioner Lapin. Motion approved unanimously by all members present: Clark, Lapin, Venugopal, Lindsay, Cotten and Johnson.

11. Ms. Dickerson presented Mayor Coble with draft of the Richland County Recreation Commission By-Laws.

Mayor Coble stated that the draft included in the Board's packet is the same as presented at July meeting, with no changes.

Motion to accept Mayor Coble's draft of RCRC By-Laws made by Commissioner Johnson, second by Commissioner Venugopal. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Clark, Johnson, Venugopal, Lindsay, Lapin and Cotten.

Ms. Dickerson stated items for Executive Session include receipt of legal advice regarding MOU with Richland County and personnel matters as follows: review of Executive Director applications, employee improvement plans and RCRC Foundation.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters made by Commissioner Lapin, second by Commissioner Lindsay. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Clark, Cotten, Johnson, Venugopal, Lindsay and Lapin.

Commissioners entered Executive Session at approximately 7:15p.m.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session ended at 9:00p.m.

Commissioner Venugopal left meeting during Executive Session.

Chair Clark stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Motion made by Commissioner Lapin to approve updates for Policy No. 170, 9020 and 9050 as presented by staff, second by Commissioner Lindsay. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Clark, Lapin, Lindsay, Johnson and Cotten.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Commissioner Lapin, second by Commissioner Lindsay. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Clark, Lapin, Lindsay, Cotten and Johnson.

8. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m.



Thomas Clark, Chair

Minutes approved on this 16th day of October 2017.