



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 11, 2017

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commission Chair Ben Easterling called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- Commission members present: Shuntel Beach, Kevin Johnson, Melissa Jurgens, Jarrett Long, Bill Lusby, Dennis Mitchell and Wendi Schutt
- Commission absent: Jamie Bendall
- City staff present: Director of Recreation & Parks Morgan Rodgers, Deputy Director of Recreation & Parks Lisa Gurganus, Parks Manager Eric Milley, Special Events Supervisor Kim Dodson, Recreation & Parks Office Manager Alice Smith
- City Council: Jason Binder

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF June 13, 2017

- Motion by Mrs. Beach to approve the minutes of June 13, 2017 as written. Second by Mrs. Schutt.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Nominations of Recreation & Parks Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Mrs. Beach made a motion to nominate Mr. Ben Easterling as Chair of Recreation and Parks Commission. Second by Mrs. Schutt.
 - **All in favor. Motion carried**
 - Mr. Lusby made a motion to nominate Mr. Jarrett Long as Vice-Chair of Recreation and Parks Commission. Second by Mr. Easterling.
 - **All in favor. Motion carried**

VI. NEW BUSINESS - None

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **Administration** – Mr. Long
 - Mr. Long reported the committee met but has nothing to report
- B. **Parks** – No Report

C. **Recreation** – Mrs. Beach

- The committee did not meet
- The program tour held yesterday was great; it was good to see the centers and programs going on
- The other commissioners in attendance agreed; Mr. Rodgers stated there will be another one later in the year
- Tour included: City Pool (open swim time), Wills Park Recreation Center (Wills Park Day Camp), The Lionheart School (Camp Happy Hearts), Alpharetta Community Center (Specialty Camps), Crabapple Government Center (Art Camp), and Adult Activity Center (Various Programs)

D. **Cultural Arts** – Mrs. Schutt

- Art camp is in full swing; this is Fashion week
- Arts Alpharetta will meet next week to discuss the Thompson Street sculpture project; Dianna Smeal secured a well-known judge from the High Museum to help jury the public sculpture projects once they are installed
- Thanks to Mr. Rodgers, Arts Alpharetta will be working with Play Me Again Pianos
- This group will install 4-6 pianos in public parks and spaces around Alpharetta; they will maintain and tune for 3 years; placement will be under shelter from the elements; identifying interested local artists to paint the pianos
- Mr. Rodgers will present the new Arts Center construction budget at Council Workshop, July 24; if there are no reductions in scope of work he will present the contract for approval to Council on August 7th.
- If award of Arts Center contract is approved, the contractor will be issued a notice to proceed; this would put ground breaking in mid to late September, with possible center opening early summer of 2018

VIII. PARTNER ASSOCIATION REPORTS

A. **AYSA** – No report

A. **AYBA** – Mrs. Jurgens

- Election for new board will take place July 22; Dave McMinn will be the new commissioner, Bob Heidish vice-president and Bryan Birdwell as treasurer
- If possible the association would like to schedule the Braves tournament games either the week before July 4th or after July 4th; the city has to work with dates the Braves are in town; this was the first year the Braves used fields at Webb Bridge Park
- Plans to replace 3 scoreboards; idea to put AYBA logo on back of scoreboard
- Instead of a cement walk at the new batting cage there is interest in using brick pavers; this could be a paver fundraiser
- Security cameras are still important to them; especially for the concession stand and batting cage; Mr. Rodgers stated Public Safety will be at the August meeting to discuss the cameras
- Approving a three year contract extension with the Georgia Bombers for the travel league; new contract will increase coaches meetings from 1 to 3; meetings will provide provisions on how to address conflict and the expectations of coaches, players and parents; could leave offender with a one game suspension if rules are violated
- Dizzy Dean tournament was a success

- Incident reports are submitted pretty quickly if they are on site, but off site reports are delayed; will remind associations that all reports need to get to staff
- B. **NAFA** – Mr. Long
- Registration for the season closes in a week; go through evaluations, first practice end of July and games begin August 19th
 - Finishing up coaches selection
 - Possible lead on commissioner replacement
- C. **NMML** – Mrs. Beach – No Report
- D. **Ambush** – Mr. Mitchell
- Coach Doug Yearwood took one of the older girls team to play tournaments in Spain

IX. **SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT - KIM DODSON**

- Update on History Room Project; Councilman Mitchell is in charge of committee made up of staff and 4 historians, we have been working on this project for over a year; panels and displays for all the artifacts are ready, editing photos; Mary Lee, Pat Miller and Connie Mashburn from the Historical Society have been a big help
- Discussed the Mayor's Challenge Race for August 24th; race starts and finishes at Brooke Street Park; Joe Virgo is working on requirements for tents, corporate sponsorship and selling tents
- Special Events Committee (consisting of 1 or 2 people from each department) are reviewing two new events; Jingle Jog in December 2018 and a Women's Half Marathon and 5K Race in March of 2018; just received this application to review, organizer is same one who puts on Iron Kids

X. **PARK SERVICE'S REPORT – ERIC MILLEY**

- Currently working on several budgeted roofing projects at Webb Bridge Park and wall restoration at the Community Center
- Working with AYBA and Better Baseball to get the temporary batting cages moved from Wills Park to Webb Bridge Park; including an additional batting cage
- Cleaning up under brush at Wills Park and raising the tree canopies along the parking lots and trails
- Busy prepping this week for the Braves tournament at both Webb Bridge and Wills Park fields and along the common areas

XI. **DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – LISA GURGANUS**

- Triple Crown Tournament will be July 20-23
- Public Works will take the lead on the pool renovation project
- Synthetic turf proposals are due July 13th; site visits will be scheduled in late July
- Registration for fall sports going on now, program registration starts at the end of this month
- Fall/Winter Recreation Guides are in facilities and on city website
- Conducting a comparison of program and rental fee structures

XII. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – MORGAN RODGERS**

- Before and after pictures of the underbrush removal at Wills Park were shown; areas look and feel safer; there was concern about the lack of privacy for those using Mansell House, staff is working with a landscape designer for options
- Met with leaders at Manning Oaks Elementary to discuss a partnership that would allow citizens in the area the use of their fields in the evening; that area of the city does not have a park within walking distance
- The placement of the graphic art around the electrical box on Old Milton Parkway has people either liking the concept or not; it is a wrap that could come down in a day; this has brought up a level of discussion on art
- The upcoming dates of Council Agenda items for our department are;
 - July 24th – Workshop on Art Center
 - August 7th – Art Center contract approval
 - August 21st – Turf Replacement contract approval
- Future items for commission meetings
 - August 8th – Public Safety will give an update on cameras in our parks
 - August 8th - Organizational changes
 - September 12th – Union Hill/Windward update
- An update was provided on the five Instruments of Inspirations; these are 5 different projects
- An opportunity presented itself to the city; Whole Foods sold their property on Upper Hembree; the site houses an Educational Farm which consists of raised beds, shelters, greenhouse, rain barrel garden; part of a coop; schools visit to learn about farming; they have two full time employees; would like to move to one of our sites; they will pay 100% of the relocation, have a three year contract to maintain at the level they do now and pay for the two employees; needs to be moved by November; the city has to furnish water, electricity and put up a 10' fence around the farm
- Questions arose as to what would happen after 3 years; what the costs would be, what about the composition of city residents; will work on getting the answers; asked commissioners to visit the site if they have time and will discuss at August meeting
- He has looked at our operation and he and Mrs. Gurganus have discussed the efficiency of the department; we need more resources for our department, mostly talking about additional staff; will put together a full plan; lots of opportunity moving forward

XIII. CITY COUNCIL REPORT

- Now is a good time for us to take advantage of opportunities; Manning Oaks is a great idea for people in the area to have a places to walk to within 10 minutes; this provides a good opportunity to partner with the school, and for residents in the area to have a place to walk to
- With the budget season, a lot of projects came in over budget such as the pool and transportation; council decided to put aside their wish list and put some money in the unallocated fund; then around mid-year see how the rest of these projects are coming in
- We last spoke about the two big things which were the bathroom restoration for both North Park and Wills Park and also park development; expansionary level and taking care of things we have; will see mid-year if there are funds available towards these projects
- We have design funds for this year; would like to take construction costs to the retreat in January: prerequisite would be the parks master plan; the one we have now does not include the Art Center and trails; we need to review and have a document we can all look

XIV. CITIZENS COMMENTS - NONE

XV. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Schutt. Second by Mrs. Beach.
- All in favor. Motion carried
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm
- Next meeting: Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 7:00pm