

Recreation Advisory Board
November 21st, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Alan Swank, Brandon Thompson, Shauna Switzer, Mark Ferguson

City Staff: Terri Moore, Andrew Chiki

Guests: No Guests

Call to Order: The November meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 5:34 P.M.

Introduction: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve October minutes was made by Alan. It was seconded and passed unanimously with an amendment that Brandon Thompson was not in attendance.

Old Business

Grants Submissions

- Terri reported she had a meeting with Jessie Powers to review a grant proposal for Athens Foundation Grant for National Girls and Women's Sports Day. Awards are to be announced next week.
- Andrew said applications for Nature Works grant open in January, and grants are awarded around June for varying amounts.
- Andrew reported he had a meeting with AmeriCorps Natural Conservation's regional representative about potential project partnership. He is submitting for Camp Rotan as one project and behind the Athens Community Center as secondary backup project. AmeriCorps would provide a crew. Parks and Recreation would provide materials and housing, which could be accommodate at the cabin at Camp Rotan.

National Girls and Women Sports Day

- Alan reports the date will be February 1st. He is marketing it; hand delivering two fliers to every public high school in Athens County and surrounding counties. PDFs will be emailed to athletic directors in eight counties, who can then email those to coaches.
- Alan said there will be a panel of six, four of which are confirmed. A VIP event will be held at Arts/West.
- Alan said he is contacting local businesses for sponsorships of merchandise and food.
- Alan reports there will be some auxiliary activities such as renting the uptown movie theatre.

New Business

Recreation Advisory Board Bylaws

- Mark brought a document to serve as an outline for proposed items for bylaws for the Recreation Advisory Board. He asked everyone to review and provide feedback to expand.
- Terri stated her expectation is the bylaws would be written by the Recreation Advisory Board, which would then be reviewed by Arts, Parks, and Recreation. Anything that may need to be reviewed would then be sent to Lisa for review.

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- Andrew said that the new bylaws would work to expand the ordinance lines' meanings and define clarity and purpose of ordinance.
- Alan suggested talking with the Mayor and Lisa because the city may want consistency in format across all boards and commissions. If so, the process might need to be started across all boards and commissions.
- Terri stated she'd start with Patty, who works with all the advisory boards and commissions. She also said she would bring it up at the mayor's staff meeting next Monday. Terri said she would find out from the mayor if he intended to hold another board and commissions meeting.
- Terri said the mission and vision statements are started. She would like to get them in place by year's end and will work on it at next two staff meetings. Terri hopes to have a draft for review to the advisory board next meeting.
- Alan asked if it would be possible to add standardized terms for board members as opposed to constantly cycling new ones in and out.

2020 Budget

- Terri reported the budget for next year is less than this year's. Some items have seen reductions while others, especially where there are projects, have seen increases.
- Alan stated he would like to see increased marketing for Silver Sneakers as it brings in a significant amount of revenue as well as promotes senior health.
- Andrew stated that some insurance companies have pulled out in lieu of their own programs. He also mentioned that more classes could be added, but it would require certified teachers. Certification is inexpensive and can be done online.

Columbus Crew Camp

- Shawna stated she is working with Erin for a Columbus Crew Camp for the summer. The camp would be four days, three hours a day.
- Shawna said the proposed location would be behind the community center. This would allow for moving indoors in inclement of weather or heat.
- Terri said it could be marketed to summer camp kids. If the camp happens at the community center site - staff could transport children to the soccer camp and back to camp.

Baily's Trail Run

- Shawna said she spoke to a gentleman about starting a run in Athens on Baily's Trail. They want to work with the city for a major trail race. They are thinking of doing it in conjunction with a community event like Brew Week.
- Shawna said she is supposed to meet with him in a couple weeks to work on details.

Staff Report

Youth Basketball

- Andrew reports youth basketball registration is now open.
- Terri said it runs from 3rd to 12th grade with a \$35 registration fee. Registration ends January 5th with a coach's meeting on January 8th. Games will be from January 27th to March 7th.

Halloween Game Night

- Andrew reported there was a good crowd that attended despite the bad weather. Games were donated by Bedrock.

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Charging Station

- Andrew reported on EV charging stations; an electric charging station was installed at the pool in the spring, and it is covering utility costs. An additional station (faster-charging DC station will be installed, and will earn credits from AEP.
- Andrew says drivers of electric cars plot their routes on a map and this could draw people to choose this route when travelling.

Year End Projects

- Terri reports Habitat House has been painted and carpeted. They are working on tiling; locks need to be added to entry door. The doors need to be locked at the Habitat House and parks at night. Magnetic timed locks could be used so no staff has to physically go to all restrooms.
- Terri said the painting and tiling will be complete next week in Arts West. A ramp was installed to access stage but they are considering recessing the stage to accommodate it better.
- Terri stated they had corrected the sidewalk going to the senior center in the community center. A rail may be added on one side. Terri said the next step will be to add an automatic, push-button entrance at the senior entrance.

Projects for 2020

- Terri reports she has some estimates on new boiler and roof. Her estimates are \$160,000 for the roof and \$100,000 for new boiler.
- Alan asked if solar panels could be added to the community center's roof. Andrew answered that they discussed it and there is a team of three people doing evaluations on that topic. Solar panels should be done at same time as roof replacement for cost-saving.

Arts West

- Terri reported on upcoming events; an art opening on December 6th through January 6th from 5PM to 7PM, and a Ukulele workshop on December 15th from 2PM to 4PM.
- Terri reported the afternoon arts transit issue is resolved. Athens Transit received a grant for 2020. It should be in place in January. Andrew spoke to senior transportation and it could serve as a backup.

Winter Park Maintenance

- Terri reports a dead tree was removed from Richland Avenue Park. They have been uplifting trees, trimming bushes, and filling holes at the dog parks.

Other Items

Mission Statement

- Andrew said he was trying to get more feedback on the draft. He would like more time for staff to look at it so no one is left out.

The motion to adjourn was made, and it was seconded. 7:05 pm