

Recreation Advisory Board
February 15, 2024
5:30pm / Actual Start Time = 5:35pm
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Daniel Brown, Megan Russell, Annie Valeant, Anne L'Heureux, Stuart Goldsberry

Also Present: Athens City Arts, Parks, and Recreation Department Director, Katherine Ann Jordan

I. Call to Order/Establish Quorum at 5:35pm

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Annie V.** makes the Motion, and **Stuart** 2^{nds}

III. Approval of Minutes (5:37pm)

- June, 2023
 - **Annie V.** motions, **Megan** 2^{nds}

IV. New Business

- Community member Insights
 - City Pool Lap Swim / Aquatic Center closure (Summer 2024)
 - Megan: Can we get Aquatic belt / aqua aerobics equipment?
 - KAJ: We have that equipment! Hasn't been used much, looks like new; will have that out so lap swimmers can see that it is available for use.
 - Megan: Goal is for Aquatic Center to stay open through May
 - KAJ: June 15th is the Operating date bobcat swim is working with.
 - 8-10am M-F Bobcat Swim club uses for practice
 - 10-12 M-Sat 7-8pm M-F
 - KAJ: Had to set a boundary for maintaining the wellness of the staff – staff has to come in an hour prior to open
 - Pickleball Scheduling
 - Folks had approached Megan that there was some disconnect with the app
 - KAJ: The scheduling app is not through the City and it is more so people can schedule times to play with others. User conflict: because other people showed up to play even when people had a time scheduled
 - 3 indoor (have to pay to enter comm center), 4 outdoor (don't have to pay to use)
 - Made one available for scheduling

- Concerns over illegal camping in City Parks
 - Megan: Fecal remains may have been left
 - KAJ: People break into bathrooms sometimes; often leaving a mess because the water is off
 - Daniel has seen feces left behind from illegal campers
- Vote to fill Officer Positions for 2024
 - Chair - MEGAN!
 - Vice-chair - Annie
 - Secretary – Stuart
 - **Anne** makes a motion that all of the above will serve these positions for one year; **db** 2^{nds}
- Actions for board member recruitment: three vacancies need filled
 - Can we share the survey
 - KAJ: it is in Google Forms
 - 7 members from Athens County with 5 residing in the City
 - Megan: Filling out the Google Docs is how someone can apply
 - Annie: will take ownership of the Google Docs
 - Annie@copperheadbaseball.com
- Adaptive Recreational opportunities
 - Megan: I think that was the meeting with Rachael (OU Physical Therapy professor)
 - KAJ: Yes! We had the meeting and it was good!
 - If family has kids with special needs then the voluntary coach is not enough they need parental support (para-professionals – students that get license from state of Ohio)
 - Para-professionals
 - In this next year
 - Would be implementing them in REC Programs in 2025.
 - Anne: Is it going to be a traveling team?
 - KAJ: More about peer to peer association (in the rec program)
 - One specific sport, like track and field or basketball

Annie: Will the para-professionals will be paid?

KAJ: Rachael is looking for grant funding. Unified Basketball (16+) and Volleyball (spring)

Senior Center has interest in seeking their space for chair volleyball (did that pre-Covid and are looking to get back at it!)

Stuart: Did they do that at the Mall? Anne: Yes!

V. Continuing Business

VI. APR Staff Report –

6:23pm

AMAC would like to have a joint-meeting

Sells Park muck back: No bag limits; bring a trailer and we will load you up!

Tennis Courts fence installed (stil have some drainage work to do) - They're Ready!

Kids night out tomorrow

Camp Registratgion Party: Sunday March 3rd 2-3pm where kids can be dropped off while kids can be registered for camp- getting the word out that it is being doen a little different this year (due to a larger than normal influx last year)

VII. Announcements & Other Business

- Next Meeting March 21, 2024

VIII. Adjournment

6:37pm