



MINUTES
Kinston/Lenoir County Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
September 12, 2019 5:30pm
KINSTON COMMUNITY CENTER (CONFERENCE ROOM)

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nick Harvey **Kelly Jarman**
Amanda Sawyer **Dr. Gary Wojeski**
Sue Ellen Maddux **Dr. James Sylvia**
Merywn Smith **Christopher Bradshaw**

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sonya Berry **Rosalyn Yarus**
Nathan Perry **Ed Futrell**
Felicia Solomon **Steve Saint-Amand**

The September, 2019 meeting was called to order by the Chair, Nick Harvey. A motion was made to approve the August, 2019 minutes.

Motion – Smith; Second – Sawyer; Vote – Unanimous.

Corey Povar updated the commission on the department’s damages from Hurricane Dorian. He stated that the department sustained approximately \$100,000 in damages, most of that coming from a fallen tree that landed on the picnic shelter at Barnet Park. There were also leaks through the window casings at Georgia Battle Center and leaks at the Ellis Planetarium and Exchange Nature Center.

Nick Harvey discussed the commission’s attendance policy, which states *that members of the commission must attend a minimum of eight (8) regular monthly meetings in a calendar year, unless a valid excuse is presented.* He encouraged all commission members to make an effort to attend the meetings and excessive absences will be addressed. He also stated that when a member has a valid excuse to please email Debra Wicker before the current meeting in order for it to be considered excused.

Corey Povar updated the commission on the Kinston Kingfish Swim Club. He informed the commission that the swim club will now be run by the Kinston/Lenoir County Parks & Recreation Department and will swim at the Kinston Community Center. Two Swim Team Instructors will be hired through the city’s online hiring process and will be paid \$15.00 per hour. Swim team registration will take place either online or at the Kinston Community Center. The cost will be \$50/month/child and they will practice three (3) days per week. Corey stated this will benefit the community center as well as the swim team and also be good for the community.

Corey Povar discussed moving the Joel Smith Memorial Disc Golf Course, currently located off of highway 70 to Bill Fay Park. He stated that this course has never been completed due to repeated flooding in that area he would like to move the course to Bill Fay Park. He stated that the Kinston Disc Golf Club and the Greenville Disc Golf Club are interested in moving the course and will help with debris removal and planning the new course.

Debra Wicker informed the commission that a ribbon cutting and ceremony was held at Grainger Stadium to honor Mr. George Whitfield for his dedicated service to the youth and community in Lenoir County. Mr. Whitfield threw out the 1st pitch at the game and a celebration was held at the Mother Earth Pavilion. Also, a bronze plaque stating “George Whitfield Way” was hung on the causeway wall near the main entrance into the stadium.

Corey Povar invited the commission to attend the Holloway Tackle Football Jamboree that will be held at Holloway Park on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 10am-1pm. He hopes to have live entertainment and food vendors at the event. Currently, the department has four 10U and four 12U tackle teams and eight flag football teams. There are also 260 soccer participants that are

registered to play at Barnet Park.

Dr. Wojeski questioned the land that was purchased years ago (old Harper Salvage) that was going to house the county-wide soccer complex. Corey stated that he will check on this and will report back to him at the next meeting.

Corey Povar stated that he will give the commission an update on the Swim Club Management Team's finances and profits after they meet with the South Carolina Management team in the near future.

Kelly Jarman questioned the status of the skate park that was discussed several years ago. Corey stated that the county may have some vacant buildings that can be used for an indoor bike park and there also may be some ramps that have been offered to us, however these ramps are for indoor bike use only.

Merywn Smith questioned if any updates had occurred after the last meeting concerning the shortage and the condition of the athletic equipment at Lagrange. Corey stated that all sites will have adequate equipment before the games start. It was also brought up that the principals at Banks and Lagrange have concerns over the security at their gyms during recreation activities. Corey stated that he will check on this and get back to the commission at the next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Motion – Jarman; Second – Maddux; Vote – Unanimous.

Debra A. Wicker
Secretary to the Kinston/Lenoir County Parks & Recreation Commission