

CITY OF NEWTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
September 9, 2014

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of Newton, North Carolina was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at Newton Recreation Center.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kyle Smith, Chairman
Terry Abernethy, Vice-Chairman
Frances Inscoe
David Shugart
Marshall Pratt
Mickie Drum
Sandra Waters, Parks and Recreation Director
John Stiver, City Representative

Staff Present: Carol Stiles, Assistant Recreation Director

Recording Secretary: Marcia L. Winkler

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Kyle Smith welcomed the commission and called the meeting to order.

II. Commission member Terry Abernethy moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, July 8, 2014 regular meeting, seconded by Commission member David Shugart, the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III. Old Business

Thank you to volunteers – Soldiers Reunion Event – The Director thanked Commission members for their help during the 2014 5K Run/Walk and 30-60-100 Century Bike Ride. The department reunion events did very well, Senior Citizens Dance had 75 participants, Cornhole Tournament had 12 teams, the Horseshoe Tournament had 8 teams, Pet Mania had 35 pets to register, 5k Run/Walk and One-Mile Fun Run had 325 runners and the 30-60-100 Century Bike Ride had 160 riders. Sponsors for this year's reunion events were Carolina Glove & Safety Company, Carolina Orthopaedic Specialists, Cook's Sporting Goods, Fleet Feet Sports, Geppeto's Pizza & More, Law Offices of Michael A. DeMayo L.L.P, Lee Industries, Lighting Cycles, Pepsi, Rock-n-Road Bicycles, Subway, Therapeutic Solutions, Tadlock's Trophies and Texas Roadhouse.

Swimming Pool Report - Director gave out a written report on the 2014 swimming pool revenues, public swim and daycamp attendance, etc.

Also talked about the future of the swimming pool; to keep the pool running the City cannot drain pool – in a year's time or less it will crack/moisture will accumulate and get between plaster and concrete, causing it to deteriorate; according to the State of North Carolina – if water is left in a pool it must be kept clean/clear year round due to deaths/accidents (must be able to see the bottom at all times) and/or a liability; also add an spray ground/splash pad - \$150,000 and up.

The Commission discussed the idea and a recommendation was made to keep the swimming pool open by a unanimous vote.

Activities Report – The department will begin winter sports registration for basketball and indoor co-ed soccer in October, the fall football and soccer leagues have started; Director and Assistant Director are working with Kenyon Kelly and David Shugart on bike events at Jacob Fork Park; the Director gave commission members a copy of the annual program report and sports participation report.

Cemeteries/Buildings & Ground Report – Due to the rainy weather the greenways are having erosion problems on the last phase; sandbags and post have been added to prevent future erosion; the Newton ROTC assisted with making sandbags.

Cemeteries/Buildings & Ground staff had to remove 6 to 8 trees in the cemetery that had been hit by lightning; if possible the department will replant those trees.

Gym floor – the gym floor has been refinished twice because the covering is bubbling up, after a close inspection after the second visit the gym floor is bubbling up again; the company was contacted and will return to re-do the floor again. The company is the same company the department has worked with in the past, but different people.

Canoe Launch - The canoe outtake at Jacob Fork Park above the damn has to be moved 150 yards away from the damn. The department is waiting for engineers to approve new location of the canoe launch.

Disc Golf Course – Assistant Director Carol Stiles told the commission she is receiving donations to develop the disc golf course at Jacob Fork Park. She is selling sponsorships/signage for the disc golf baskets; she is working on setting up a clean-up day to remove brush, weeds, etc. from the disc golf course.

IV. New Business

Program Evaluation On-Line – the Director said she was working with the IT staff to develop an On-Line Program Evaluation.

Tennis/Outdoor Basketball – Commission member Frances Incoe reported that she had seen an individual who was teaching private tennis lessons at Westside/Jaycee Park, she asked if the department had rules noting private tennis lessons were not allowed. The Director said we do have a rule not allowing private tennis lessons, but she would check with staff to make sure.

Certificate of Safety Achievement – the department received for the 2nd consecutive year the Gold Certificate of Safety Achievement.

Newton One of the 50 Safest Cities – The City of Newton came in 37th out of the 50th safest cities in North Carolina.

Concussion Training (All Sports) – Assistant Director Carol Stiles talked about how concussions have increased in all sports, North Carolina is one of the few states that do not have a concussion law. She has set-up training sessions for all the department coaches on dealing with concussions.

VII. Adjournment

Commission Member Marshall Pratt moved that the meeting be adjourned 2nd by David Shugart.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2014.

Sandra Waters Parks and Recreation Director