

St. Andrew's Parish Parks & Playground Commission

Commission Meeting Minutes - October 24th, 2007

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Present: Jeff Gladwell, John Johnston, Mike Eykyn, Carol Etheridge, Kevin Walsh, Ron Koch, Frank Stefan

Call to Order: Mr. Gladwell called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Mr. Gladwell led the Commission in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment: Ms. Betty Graham asked when the dedication for Carolyn Drose would be held. Mr. Walsh replied that St. Andrew's is trying to work with Darius Rucker's schedule, and we would try to coordinate it with the announcement of this year's inductees in December. She also stated that she would like to have former Commissioners referred to as "Trailblazers." Finally, she stated that the pictures of former Commissioners that were displayed on the wall going towards the pool had been taken down to make room for a bulletin board which is not being 100% utilized. She stated that the Commissioners are a part of history and that taking the pictures down is not a way to show appreciation. Mr. Gladwell responded that there were a very small percentage of former Commissioners represented on the wall. He stated that the Commission would address it and get back to her. Ms. Graham concluded by sharing pictures of the new bulletin board area.

Approval of the September 20th, 2007 Minutes: Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes which as seconded by Mr. Eykyn. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the September 2007 Financial Reports and Summary Balance Sheet: Mr. Eykyn made a motion to approve which was seconded by Ms. Etheridge. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Walsh and Mr. Gladwell attended the City of Charleston's Recreation Commission meeting. They were very well received and heard good comments about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Walsh stated there was an article on the West Of newspaper regarding St. Andrew's receiving the NAYS Excellence in Youth Sports Award; the first department to receive it twice. He also made note of the youth sports ad in the West Of which displayed the St. Andrew's and City of Charleston logos together. Mr. Walsh continued by passing out an informational packet on solar heating. There is a meeting scheduled for Monday at 1:00 PM to get more information. The solar panels can be used to reduce electric bills. Mr. Gladwell asked for feedback from the other Commissioners. Ms. Etheridge thought it would be a good idea to talk to other businesses in the area that utilize solar power to get the pros and cons of the system. Mr. Eykyn stated that he has read about solar box collectors vs. solar film which covers the windows.

Deputy Director's Report: Mr. Koch presented the video which was produced for the NAYS award which will be shown at the Athletic Business Conference in Orlando. After seeing the video, Mr. Gladwell asked to let the staff know that they did a great job with video, and that the video reflected the whole reason why we are here...for the kids.

General Manager's Report: Mr. Stefan stated had nothing to add to his written report.

Unfinished Business

Annexations: 2490 Liverpool Dr. (.25 acres), 197/195 and 250 Haggard (14.37 acres), 1343/1345 Ashley River Rd. (.55 acres).

501(c)-3: No update at this time.

St. Andrew's Family Fitness Pool Renovations: Sixty gallons of deck paint has been delivered and the restrooms and pool deck will be painted over the next few weeks. Mr. Gladwell commented that the staff did a great job on finishing this project; especially Mr. Jonas' crew.

St. Andrew's Hall of Fame: Mr. Walsh announce that only one new person was nominated this year; Timmy Linker. He distributed Mr. Linker's application as well as the applications that were not selected from last year. Mr. Walsh asked if St. Andrew's should carry over application for 2 or 3 years. Mr. Gladwell stated that this would "water down" the importance of the award, and candidates should be re-nominated each year. He also felt that Commissioners should be able to nominate anyone they saw fit for the award. Mr. Johnston re-nominated Robert Drose, Hugh Gorman, and T.A. Fulmer. Mr. Gladwell said the Commission would vote on the four candidates at the next meeting, and each Commissioner would have up to three votes each.

St. Andrew's Park at Hunt Club: Mr. Koch talked with Will Connor and they will begin the site survey soon and it will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Soccer Club Agreement: Mr. Walsh stated according to the MOU, the City of Charleston will be conducting youth soccer leagues, and he would try to get them together with Charleston United Soccer Club to discuss the soccer agreement.

Ten Year Plan to Eliminate Taxes: This plan is still in progress, but it too may be impacted by the new MOU with the City.

Capital Improvements: Mr. Walsh passed out a revised Capital Improvement Plan. Changes proposed to the FY 06-07 plan were to include \$17,000 for the site survey at St. Andrew's Park at Hunt Club and to add the purchase of a field line painter and trailer for \$4,795. The trail plans originally scheduled for this year would be moved to the next fiscal year. Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve the changes which was seconded by Ms. Etheridge. Motions approved unanimously. Mr. Walsh would like to seek an additional \$100,000 financing in FY 07-08 to continue with the Long Range Plan. Projects included in this year are: seal coat and stripe parking lots, the purchase of a new mower and pick-up truck, a new entrance for the gymnasium and the previously mentioned trail plans. Ms. Etheridge made a motion to approve seeking the additional \$100,000 financing, which was seconded by Mr. Eykyn. Motion carried unanimously.

Greenbelt Funds: The site survey will have to be completed before getting the greenbelt funds. As for the purchase of the Dogwood property, the Greenbelt Committee will meet soon to determine if our project meets all of the qualifications, and if it does, it will then go to Charleston County Parks Commission before being presented to County Council.

City Youth Sports Agreement: Mr. Walsh distributed a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding to the Commissioners. There were a few changes made since the draft discussed at the last meeting, especially on the last page. The City staff will work "in conjunction" with St. Andrew's and will adhere to St. Andrew's standards. If we find something that needs to be corrected, St. Andrew's has the right to correct the problems and bill the City for the work that was done. Mr. Gladwell stated that Mr. Walsh and Ms. Yarbrough are to be commended for the efforts that were put forth to bring this together, and the kids are going to greatly benefit from it.

New Business

Policy Review: Section 7, Policy 12 – Records Retention and Destruction: Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve which was seconded by Mr. Eykyn. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: Mr. Eykyn made a motion at 8:26 PM to go into an executive session to discuss a contractual agreement, which was seconded by Ms. Etheridge. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission came out of executive session and re-convened the regular meeting at 9:04 PM.

Commission Attorney: Mr. Johnston made a motion to retain Mr. Lindsey Cooper as St. Andrew's attorney which was seconded by Mr. Eykyn. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Eykyn made a motion to approve the Retainer Agreement and fees set forth by Mr. Cooper which was seconded by Ms. Etheridge. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Etheridge made a motion to draft a letter to Mr. Trent Kernodle, former attorney for St. Andrew's, stating that the fees billed for work done on the meeting that was cancelled by Mr. Kernodle two days before it was scheduled to take place would respectfully not be paid. Second from Mr. Johnston. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Eykyn made a motion to seek advice from Mr. Cooper in regards to going after the fees previously paid to Mr. Kernodle for work done on the annexation agreement that was never completed, which was seconded by Mr. Johnston. Motion carried unanimously.

November 2007 Commission Meeting: Mr. Johnston made a motion to conduct the next Commission meeting on Thursday, November 15th, 2007 due to Thanksgiving falling on the fourth Thursday of the month. Second from Mr. Eykyn. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission adjourned unanimously at 9:07 PM.