

St. Andrew's Parish Parks and Playground Commission

Commission Meeting Minutes

August 24th, 2006

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

Call to Order: Mr. Gladwell called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Ms. Etheridge led the Commission in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment:

Dr. Tony Turkett from Palmetto Behavioral Health addressed the Commission in regards to the possibility of utilizing St. Andrew's Family Fitness Plus for recreational opportunities for his patients. Dr. Turkett focuses on youth residential care and is teaching the youth socializations skills and working on physical fitness. His youth have an IQ range anywhere from 30-140. The youth are evaluated on levels 1-5. At level five, the youth are ready to be placed in foster care. Dr. Turkett proposed to bring his youth to SAFFP to swim, play basketball, or walleyball. He was interested in bringing them twice a week, once a week, every other week, once a month, whatever we would allow. He would only bring them during the slow times of the day and a maximum of sixteen youth per visit. He would keep a 1:4 ratio of staff to youth. Male and female youth would not be together; he would alternate each trip. Only level 4 and 5 youth would be eligible to come to the facility. The trip to FFP has to be earned, so it is a reward for them to be able to participate. Dr. Turkett also asked to have the daily rate reduced for his youth. Mr. Gladwell stated that the Commission would discuss the request and get back to him in writing within 48 hours.

Approval of the July 20th, 2006 Minutes: Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve to approve the July 20th, 2006 minutes which was seconded by Mr. Bailey. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the July 2006 Financial Reports and Summary Balance Sheets: Due to the process of incorporating the new accounting software, the July Financial Reports and Summary Balance Sheet were not available.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Walsh stated that it has been a frustrating process moving from QuickBooks to Red Wing. Mr. Walsh passed out information on tax collections. St. Andrew's took in \$50,000 more than what was budgeted in tax revenues for the fiscal year. Family Fitness Plus took in \$85,000 in revenue in July, but we do not yet know what expenses were. In July 2005, St. Andrew's was told to start taking South Carolina Retirement out of pay checks for those people who are already retired and continue to work for St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's records have been subpoenaed because a law firm representing working retired people is trying to get those retirement monies back for them. St. Andrew's has agreed to help NRPA with a study on youth sports. Survey results will go to NRPA by November. Mr. Walsh is ready to propose a 10 year agreement with C.E. Williams Middle School that will involve improvements to the facilities, such as the addition of lights in exchange for

use of their facilities. Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the proposal which was seconded by Mr. Eykyn. Motion passed unanimously. St. Andrew's will be receiving a RAP Branch Award at the SCRPA State Conference for the Counselor in Training program.

Deputy Director's Report: Mr. Koch stated that the welcome sign and volunteer park sign were completed for the state baseball tournament, and that it added a very nice touch. He also mentioned that through the Counselor in Training program, St. Andrew's has had participants come back as volunteers and as paid staff. Lastly, Mr. Koch thanked the Commission for the opportunity to work at St. Andrew's for the past nine years.

General Manager's Report: Mr. Stefan reminded the Commission about the staff appreciation party on Saturday, August 26th, 5:30 pm, at St. Andrew's Family Fitness. Dinner will be served.

Aquatics Supervisor's Report: Ms. Noffke stated that she has dropped one water walking class from the water aerobics schedule, but added an additional deep water walking class which was heavily requested. The aquatics department is short staffed and she will be conducting interviews in the next few days. Some of her staff are taking flyers to the college campuses to see if they can find some lifeguards. She feels that the starting wage for the guards is competitive with other departments, but you can get a job at a fast food restaurant starting at \$9.00/hr.

Unfinished Business

Annexations: No report at this time.

501(C)3 – Nothing to add at this time.

FFP Pool Renovation: Mr. Koch met with Jeffrey Brown and David Logan in regards to the demolition of the concrete floor. Wolff and Son quoted the electrical portion of the job at \$14,000. Mr. Koch is waiting on a plumbing price, but may go after prices on his own. Mr. Gladwell feels that this project has been drawn out for the past 6-8 months and requested that it be completed by the next Commission meeting. Mr. Walsh didn't feel that it was possible to complete the project within the next 30, but might be able to complete it in the next 60 days. They will shoot for the next 30 days.

Hall of Fame: One application was received for the St. Andrew's Hall of Fame.

Hunt Club: Mr. Walsh had sent a letter with the proposed agreement in July. He called this week as a follow up, but has not had a reply.

New Business

Policy Manual Revisions:

Section 7, Policy 11: Staff Coaching. Mr. Johnston made a proposal to approve the policy with an amendment to add the words "and Commission" to the second sentence after the word "staff." The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey. Mr. Johnston withdrew his motion which was seconded by Mr. Bailey. No motion was made to approve the proposal "as is." Mr. Johnston made a motion to accept the policy with an amendment to add the words "and Commissioners" to the second sentence after the word "staff," and to remove all wording after the word "program," beginning with "However..." Mr. Bailey seconded the motion which was then passed unanimously. No staff or Commissioner will be allowed to coach a youth sports team under any circumstance.

Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament: Revenues from the tournament were better than the tournament held in 2002, except for souvenirs. Glenn Parker from the City of Aiken sent a letter thanking St. Andrew's for all the hard work put into the tournament and commended the staff on a job well done. Mr. Gladwell asked Mr. Walsh to share this letter with staff and reply to Mr. Parker.

New Capital Financing Plan: Mr. Koch contacted BB&T to get financing information for projects scheduled to be completed in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Mr. Gladwell stated that he did not see the fencing project or concession stand remodeling on the list of projects. Mr. Walsh stated that it was not scheduled on this year's list, but it is on next year's. Mr. Gladwell requested to have those two projects added to the list. Mr. Walsh asked for another month to revamp the proposed financing plan.

Palmetto Behavioral Health: Mr. Gladwell was concerned that the possibility exists that one of the youth could break away from the group or attack a member. St. Andrew's has a responsibility to its members and they need to be protected. Mr. Johnston agreed that the members come first, and would also be concerned about the language being used by the youth. Mr. Eykyn thought it would be best if they were to use the facility after hours and they could rent the facility. Mr. Bailey and Mr. Johnston both agreed with Mr. Eykyn. Ms. Noffke stated that there are, at times, problems with the St. Andrew's Parks & Playground special needs group that come in twice a week. They are here during the same time swim lessons are taking place. Ms. Noffke also stated that she has had a parent pull her child out of swim lessons and ask for a refund because they were not comfortable having their kids in the pool at the same time the special needs group was there. Mr. Walsh pointed out that we can schedule this group to come in any time we need. Mr. Eykyn made a motion to not allow Palmetto Behavioral health or the St. Andrew's special needs group to use the facility during normal operating hours. Seconded by Mr. Bailey. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: The Commission adjourned unanimously at 9:10 pm.