

St. Andrew's Parish Parks & Playground Commission

Meeting Minutes – July 23rd, 2009
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Present: Mike Eykyn, John Johnston, Susan Mayo, Kevin Walsh, Ron Koch, Frank Stefan

All-star Presentations: The Commission was introduced to this year's champions from Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth baseball and softball, including: our state champions in 13U and 15U Baseball, our 12U and 16U Softball teams who finished 1-2 in their Regional, and our 18U Softball team who won their Southeastern Regional in Alabama. Our 9U Baseball state champions were in Lewisburg Tennessee at the Southeast Regional Tournament.

Call to Order: Mr. Eykyn called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

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

Approval of the June 30th, 2009 Minutes: Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Ms. Mayo. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the June Financial Reports and Summary Balance Sheet: Mr. Johnston made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Ms. Mayo. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Walsh received a copy of a letter from the Ponderosa Home Owners Association addressed to Curtis Inabinett (Charleston County Council) regarding the condition of the building at Ponderosa Park. The letter stated that Mr. Walsh was invited to attend the last home owner's association meeting, but was not in attendance. Mr. Walsh stated he did not receive an invitation to the meeting. Mr. Koch was invited and planned to attend, but he was called out of town on a family emergency and notified the home owner's association that he would not be there this month. Mr. Walsh stated that St. Andrew's Parks & Playground stopped doing programs at the park 6 or 7 years ago due to the lack of interest, and the schools started offering after school programs. The building at Ponderosa gets used once a month for the home owners association. The air conditioner in the building is not working. The last event that took place at Ponderosa was the installation of a new playground. Mr. Koch and Ms. Heath will be conducting a survey for the Ponderosa area to see what the residents are interested in. The next Ponderosa Home Owners Association meeting is on August 3rd. Mr. Koch and Ms. Heath will be in attendance. Mr. Walsh also reported that PARD monies, which come from bingo sales, have been diminishing. PARD monies will not be issued this year because they failed to meet the minimum distribution formula, but will be combined with next year and then distributed. Mr. Walsh finished by handing out a report on the final tax collections for the year, which was broken down by the month. Tax collections exceeded budget projections for the year.

Deputy Director's Report: Mr. Koch reported that he was in a car accident earlier in the day on Sam Rittenberg Blvd. as he was turning left onto 61.

General Manager’s Report: Mr. Stefan had nothing to add to his report.

Department Proposals: None

Unfinished Business

Annexations: 763 Catawba Road (.47 acres), 355 Curtiss Avenue (.22 acres), 1716 East Avalon Circle (.23 acres), 910 Melrose Drive (.29 acres), 919 Melrose Drive (.28 acres), 823 Trent Street (.32 acres).

St. Andrew’s Park at Hunt Club: Mr. Walsh and Mr. Koch met with two members of the Charleston County Planning Department, Russ Nester, a DOT representative, Will Connor, and Cathy Ruff from the Greenbelt Committee. St. Andrew’s received permission for a temporary entrance and they talked about how to make it permanent. Will Connor is almost done with the plans to meet the requirements necessary. Once finished, it will be sent to all parties for final approval. Mr. Koch met with Charles Riddle from St. Paul’s Fire District regarding “shovel ready” grants to see if we can qualify for stimulus monies for this project.

Capital Improvement Plan: Mr. Walsh presented the list of capital items to be financed this year. Mr. Johnston made a motion to move forward to secure a loan for the equipment replacement plan. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mayo. Motion carried unanimously.

NRPA National Congress: Mr. Walsh needs to book flights for Salt Lake City for Mr. Johnston and Mr. Bailey.

New Business

Policy Review: None.

Election of Officers: Set aside until the Commission has better attendance at the meeting.

Executive Session: Mr. Walsh requested to go into executive session to discuss an incident that occurred during the trip to the 12U girls softball tournament. Mr. Johnston made a motion at 8:20pm to go into executive session, which was seconded by Ms. Mayo. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission came out of executive session at 8:42pm.

Mr. Eykyn asked Mr. Walsh to draft a letter to Ms. Amy Marvin, and requested to send it to the Commission for input before being mailed.

Mr. Koch stated he will be having back surgery on August 13th and will be out for 3 ½ weeks.

Mr. Eykyn complimented the staff on the great job they are doing considering the recession.

Adjournment: The Commission adjourned unanimously at 8:47pm.