

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

September 13, 2016

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at the Recreation & Aquatic Center at 7:30am on Tuesday, September 13, 2016. Chairman David Schrader, and Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Greg Giordano, Dana Suiters and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance. (There was no meeting in July.) (There was no quorum at the August meeting.)

The August meeting minutes were unanimously approved. The June meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Parks Master Plan - (Hand-out was distributed) A steering Committee will be formed and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will be involved along with some others. Existing conditions of the Parks will be assessed; a 10-year plan will be formed. A Master Plan is important to give direction for Parks, as well as filling a requirement when applying for Grants.
- Recreation & Aquatic Center expansion - There will be a Work Session on September 28 at 7pm. Two options are being considered: 1) The original proposal to move the Fitness Center to the Oak Room, put Child Watch in the Game Room and move the Activity room, add a drive-up/drop-off or 2) Expand the Fitness Center out and keep it in its current location. (Board Members discussed the option of having Child Watch.)
- Fee Revisions - (Hand-out was distributed) There are three columns of pricing on the hand-out: 1) Current Fees 2) Study Group Recommendation 3) Parks & Recreation Recommendation (Board Members discussed what they would like to propose and voted to keep the group deal, add a family household (must provide proof of residing in the household), adjust the current rates, keep the 3-month Membership option for the Summer, change Rental prices of Shelters, and correct the cost indicated on Hand-out for resident/non-resident for Shelters.)
- Laser Tag - 95 youth participated - This was a great event that we have had before with a good amount of participants. The company added Buddy Bumpers at no extra charge and the kids had a lot of fun.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mtg. w/Pasco District School Social Workers - Elaine met with one Social Worker and would like to have a meeting with several. She is inviting them to the Recreation & Aquatic Center to see it and what is available for students (Water Safety, Gym & Swim, Classes & Programs offered, etc.)
- State FRPA Volunteer of the Year Award - A volunteer with the City of New Port Richey Parks & Recreation Department was recognized two years in-a-row; Christian Isaly, who does a tremendous amount of work in getting donations for children in the community, received the FRPA Award this year and Joy Phillips received the award last year..
- Plans for Winter Fest - There will be a Winter Festival at the Recreation & Aquatic Center on Saturday, December 17. Snow will be brought in for three snow slides, plus games that are winter-related from 4-6pm. The movie will be shown on one side of the Gymnasium following the Festival. Toys for Tots will begin the same day on the other side of the Gymnasium; all Board Members are encouraged to assist with either or both. Toys for Tots will be held from 12-4pm on Saturday, December 17 and will continue for one week.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- River Clean-up will be this Saturday - Assistance is needed with cooking the hotdogs and handing them out.
- Comic Book Convention at the Recreation & Aquatic Center will be held this Saturday, September 17: 11am-7pm - This will probably be a huge event.
- Elaine presented an idea for all of the Advisory Board Members to see some of the Parks. The idea was favorably accepted and arrangements were planned for everyone to meet at the Recreation & Aquatic Center on Saturday, October 8 and take the Kia Trolley around to the Parks from 8-10am. The Public will be invited, as it will be considered a Public Meeting, although seating is limited on the Trolley (Dana is going to find out how many seats there are. Elaine would like to invite the Youth Advisory Board Members to join, if there is enough seating.)
- Star Wars Invasion at Sims Park on Saturday, September 24, beginning at 5:15pm - Mike made an ad for it; the Quilters Guild bought a Drone; the invasion will include at least eight characters; Star Wars characters that were donated will be given out to the children. The Star Wars Movie will be shown following the invasion beginning at 7:30pm.

- Zombie Fun Run - will be held at the James E. Grey Preserve on Saturday, October 15: 8-10am. All Board Members are invited to assist. It is a fun event; there were 110 participants last year.

VOX POP

Everyone present has received their shirt. We will take a new Board Member photo when Justin Billings returns.

Dave voiced displeasure about policies regarding Board Members serving on more than one Board. Two Alternate positions now exist on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. A resident has expressed interest in filling one of the alternate positions.

Carolyn expressed recognition and appreciation for the Youth Advisory Board and all that they do. Greg also expressed appreciation. Elaine elaborated on the function of the Youth Advisory Board and the recognition award they received from the Chamber of Commerce.

Dana will let Elaine know about the Trolley arrangements planned for October 8th. Donna will notify all Board Members of the arrangements via email.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 11th at 7:30am.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marlowe
P & R Adv. Bd. Secretary

BMB: dcf