

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

October 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was held at the Recreation & Aquatic Center and called to order at 7:00am on Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Dana Suiters, Rob Oman, Al Renedo (acting as Chairman) and staff liaison Kevin Adams were in attendance.

The September 14, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved (*pending one change, which was done immediately following the meeting*).

OLD BUSINESS:

- Cotee River Clean-up; September 18th – There was a steady drizzle of rain, but there were about 60 volunteers that participated. The event went well, and there was 1 boat and three kayaks cleaning up along the river.
- Concert on September 18th; Alter Eagles – Estimated attendance was about 700. There was rain around the area, but not at Sims Park.
- Youth Advisory Council Meeting; September 23rd – There are 10 youths participating. They are planning events and activities, and signing up to volunteer at other events that have been planned. Their next meeting will be held on October 19th at 6:30pm.
- Nerd Night; September 25th – It was the first time we offered such an event. There were 3 rooms of games for them to play (board games/cards/etc.). About 20 youths participated. We are going to try and offer this activity more often, and get the Library involved. It's a good concept.
- Movie Night; September 25th – There were about 400 in attendance for Movie Night at Sims Park.
- National Drive Electric Week Event; October 2nd – The event was very well attended, with about 100 patrons. There were 23 vehicles, including one motorcycle. One person that brought an electric vehicle commented that they go to all of the Electric Vehicle events, and this one is the best they have attended.

- Swim/Dive Meets; October 8th & 9th – These meets were for the High School Swim Teams. The events went very well. The teams that participated are finished with their practices for the season. There is a Lifeguard shortage, so the Aquatic Center will go to Winter Hours one week earlier than usual. The Aquatic Manager, Chris Bornfleth, has turned in his two-week resignation, so we are looking for a new Aquatics Manager. They have to be a Certified Pool Operator to oversee mechanicals in the pump room. We want to set up a training at the RAC for this.
- Teen Pumpkin Carving Event; October 9th – There were 15 participants, which reached the maximum we would accept. They each carved a pumpkin and all watched a movie and had fun. There was a registration fee of \$15, which covered the cost of the pumpkins, carving tools, and other costs associated with the event.
- *A question came up about how events are promoted/advertised. The answer given was social media, flyers, and the web site. We want to create a brochure for events, but that project has stalled for variety of reasons. Al mentioned that you could get a good response from sharing upcoming events/information with various friends and targeted groups on social media.

NEW BUSINESS:

- City of NPR Holiday Tree Lighting Event – December 3rd, 2021 (Sims Park: 5-8pm) – The Chamber is not doing the event this year; the Recreation Department is planning and doing it. There will be one big tree, a light show, activities, Santa, and more. Volunteers will be needed to assist with decorating the week before, and with the activities at the event.
- Recreation & Aquatic Staff – New Positions/Open Positions – Aquatic Manager, Lifeguards (PT), Child Watch Attendant (PT). New budgeted positions: Recreation Manager, Recreation Supervisor II, Recreation Leader (PT).
- Attendance Report (distribution/hand-out) – This was reviewed by everyone in attendance and questions arose regarding the methodology of capturing the information. For example, were camp participants counted every hour that they were at the RAC? Or were they counted once for the day in the Camp Program? All agreed that it was nice to see the attendance numbers increase compared to last year, but some of that could be due to factoring in Covid-19 last year. Request was made to find out more specifically how the attendance numbers are recorded.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Kids Night Out; October 16th, 2021 – There are 50 participants registered (maximum 50). The parents drop off the children and go out, then pick them up a few hours later.
- Zombie Fun Run at Grey Preserve; October 23rd – The event will be held early in the morning. There are quite a few pre-registered. *Question was asked how often the police officer that lives at the Grey Preserve goes into the park.
- Monufest Event; October 23rd, 2021 at Ordinance One and RR Square – There will be several bands playing, they are raising money for Cindy's Pets and Mullins Music that have been severely impacted by Covid-19. The event is expected to be at Sims Park next year, as it has already grown too large to be held just at Ordinance One. It will begin at 11am. There will be Acoustical and Folk Music both inside and outside. The event will go on through most of the evening. They are selling 250 tickets; patrons will enter through Ordinance One, with everything fenced off; and have access to local restaurants.
- Movie Night at Sims Park; October 30th (Addams Family) – There will be a Costume Contest for the children that want to participate, before the movie.
- Puppy Paddle; October 30th: 11am Small Dogs and 1:30pm Large Dogs
- Concert November 20th at Sims Park: 7-8:30pm – James Taylor Experience

VOX POP:

Rob tries to share movies and concerts on social media.

Jasmin Park – (Q) How is the construction going? (There are concerns about the boat ramp and the seawall being unsafe.) *(A) Kevin is meeting with Public Works tomorrow and will address these concerns.

Al will be out of town next month (November).

The next meeting will be November 9, 2021 at the RAC.

The meeting adjourned around 7:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marlowe

Carolyn Marlowe,
Secretary

CM:dch