

**PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**

**Glencairn Garden Learning Center**

**6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Bev Carroll, Rene Brannan, John Coleman, Larry Erwin, Benny Evans, Toy Rhea, Edwina Roseboro-Barnes, Hunter Veal  
**ABSENT:** Merritt King  
**STAFF:** John Taylor, Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, David Linder, Amanda Helms, Molly Koester  
**GUESTS:** Cathy Murphy, Rick Lee

**CITIZEN**

**COMMENTS:** Downtown Development Manager, Cathy Murphy, presented information about the planning strategy for Knowledge Park. Coming up in March, there will be a two-day place-making master plan workshop to discuss 5-7 amenities to make the urban environment of Knowledge Park special and memorable. The workshop is being presented by "Project for Public Spaces."

**STAFF**

**HIGHLIGHT:** Molly Koester graduated from Missouri State with a degree in Recreation, Sports and Park Administration. She joined the City in 2018 and works in outdoor recreation and environmental education. Molly has established a balance bike program in five schools since December, impacting 130 youth with more schools scheduled in the spring.

**MINUTES:** The February 5, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**OLD**

**BUSINESS:** Strategic Plan Update

- Construction of the Rock Hill Sports and Event Center has experienced a four to five-month completion delay. This has impacted multiple major events. Only small events are scheduled for fall months.
- As of March 1, 2019, a \$91,000 per month contractual penalty is in play as the City has lost events and event revenue. City staff is working to maintain event relationships.

Master Plan Update

- The Cherry Park alternate entrance/exit project has been impacted by rain which has delayed paving. The Cherry Park playground is in visible progress. The Manchester Meadows turf is nearing bid stage.
- The City hosted three sports tourism events in February with 7,880 participants.
- Six tournaments are scheduled for March including the 230+ team Discoveries Soccer Club - Ray Thompsett Soccer Tournament.

FY2020 Budget

- PRT is requesting \$8.4 million in the General Fund and \$4 million in Local Hospitality Tax.
- Issue papers for staffing Miracle Park, staffing "Duke Energy" Park, a splash pad, summer food service, management software, pedestrian bridges and others were submitted to the Budget Office.
- PRT is requesting more information and direction from City Management on summer food service concerns.

## EXECUTIVE

- SESSION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Rhea at 7:02 PM and seconded to move to Executive Session to discuss contractual matters.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Coleman at 7:11 PM and seconded to return to open session.
  - No action was taken.

## NEW

- BUSINESS:** Advisory Committee Update
- Rick Lee, Chair of the Tennis Advisory Committee, presented an update on programs, events, membership and outreach at the Rock Hill Tennis Center. He presented multiple requests including approval of a "Champions Walk," pavilion and storage area, backboard, lighting and more courts.
  - The lease from the Rock Hill School District and the current Winthrop University partnership agreement and standards of their courts was discussed
  - When asked to name the top priority of the committee, Mr. Lee stated that the number one request would be more playing courts in order to meet demands of the users and to attract tournaments requiring twelve or more courts in one location. He agreed to research potential grants for building courts.
  - Commissioner Rhea made a motion to give approval of naming the champion walkway pending the approval of signage by Rock Hill School District (lessor). The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.
- Community Outreach Report
- A community clothing distribution at Northside was well-attended.
- Partnership Report
- The City has a long-standing partnership with Discoveries Soccer Club. The agreement is reviewed and negotiated in five-year intervals. The club pays annually for Monday-Friday synthetic turf field use at Manchester Meadows from August 1 to May 31. They also receive three free event rentals annually. Outside of that window, Discoveries pays standard rental fees to the City. Discoveries also trains PRT's recreational soccer league coaches.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Mayors in all municipalities across York County have agreed to approach York County Council at the April 1, 2019 meeting. Plan to attend to support the York County Recreation Coalition request for more funding for recreation.
- Rock Hill PRT testimonial videos were viewed by commissioners. The videos tell the story of what PRT is all about.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Amanda Helms*