

PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Rock Hill Sports and Event Center
6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Bev Carroll, Rene Brannan, John Coleman, Larry Erwin, Benny Evans, Toy Rhea, Edwina Roseboro-Barnes, Hunter Veal, Matt Watson
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, David Linder, Amanda Helms, Brian Jones, Amanda Heckroth
GUESTS: Jodi Steele, Dick McCoy, David Amigo

CITIZEN

COMMENTS: A senior group tasked by Mayor Gettys commented on plans for a Lifelong Learning program administered by the PRT Department. The goal is to redefine retirement and cultivate personal growth. The group has researched Lifelong Learning programs across the country and have established a program kick-off date on February 11, 2020. A financial goal has been set to be self-sustaining after three years. Volunteer teachers are excited about offering the program in Rock Hill.

STAFF

HIGHLIGHT: Amanda Heckroth joined the department in May 2019 as a Marketing Coordinator. Amanda focuses on social media and sports tourism marketing.

MINUTES: The August 6, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

OLD

BUSINESS: Strategic Plan Update

- The opening date for the Rock Hill Sports and Event Center has been pushed out. Four November events have been cancelled and staff has assisted each group in locating new venues. To date, since the failure to open in April 2019, the City has estimated a loss of \$6.6 million, more than 30 events and at least 27,000 room nights.
- Miracle Park agreement paperwork has been signed by the City. The State of SC (Winthrop) is expected to sign the agreement by the end of September.
- Riverwalk assessment fees were approved by City Council. These funds will provide for parking lots, public restrooms, a playground and other amenities within the development.

Master Plan Update

- Five events took place in August at Cherry Park with over 12,000 in attendance. Five events are scheduled in September with an expectation of over 20,000 in attendance.
- The Manchester Meadows synthetic turf project is substantially complete. A new entrance off of Saluda Street to Armory Park has been completed. The connector trail project within River Park is expected to break ground in October. Bid specifications are completed for the first of five bridge projects along the Tech Park Trail.

NEW

BUSINESS: Advisory Committee Report

- David Amigo, chair of the Rock Hill Sports and Events Center addressed the commission and emphasized not only sports tourism events but also a community focus.

Summer Program Report (attached to official minutes)

- Summer programming reports were shared with commissioners for information.

Community Outreach Report

- The tennis program served over 200 youth during a five-week program with the Rock Hill School District.

Partnership Report

- Area Eleven Special Olympics serves York, Chester and Lancaster counties. Rock Hill PRT coaches participants in 10 sports for state, national and world-level competitions.

**ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS:**

- Vandalism occurred at Cherry Park and the Rock Hill Tennis Center over the holiday weekend.
- The BMX/Criterium recreational vehicle lot is available for hurricane evacuees.
- Commissioners toured the Rock Hill Sports and Event Center construction site.

EXECUTIVE

SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Helms