

PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

ZOOM

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rene Brannan, Bev Carroll, Larry Erwin, Benny Evans, Toy Rhea, Perry Sutton, Matt Watson
ABSENT: Edwina Roseboro-Barnes (e), John Coleman
STAFF: John Taylor, Mark Sexton, Rhea Faris, Garnet McKeown, David Linder, Amanda Helms

CITIZEN

COMMENTS: None.

MINUTES: The December 1, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

OLD

BUSINESS:

Strategic Plan Update

- The PRT second quarter strategic plan report is underway and will be shared with the commission within the week.
- City Council will meet with Department Heads in late January to discuss the next three-year (FY22-FY24) plan for the City.

Master Plan Update

- **Connectivity:** Tech Park Bridge #2 is on order and the final connector at River Park is in bid stage.
- **Maintenance & Infrastructure:** Northside exterior painting is ready to start. Rock Hill Tennis Center court resurfacing and storage building are ready to begin. The main concessions building at Miracle Park is underway. The Emmett Scott playground and shelter selection is in process.
- **Sports Tourism:** Rock Hill PRT continues to be a major economic development tool for the City, generating a direct economic impact of \$57 million in 2020. December events included local outdoor games and six indoor events. In January, PRT will host 7v7 flag football, soccer and volleyball events. With the addition of Old Town and ChristmasVille, December events brought over 18,000 people to downtown Rock Hill.
- **Partnerships:** The Panthers partnership will add up to 15 shared-use trail miles to the City's trail system and funded by the Panthers TIF district. Plans are for Manchester Meadows to host non-sporting events in conjunction with the Panthers development. PRT will serve as a "screening" conduit for community access to the Panthers.

NEW

BUSINESS:

Budget FY2022

- Staffing facilities remains a prominent need for PRT in upcoming budget years.
- Portions of the economic development budget will integrate with the PRT budget.
- PRT will request a meeting of all viable downtown project groups for a transparent review of downtown parks, arts and events.

Advisory Committees

- Ryan Hunt and Tommy Epps were approved to serve on the Baseball Advisory Committee.
- Encourage committees to continue to engage online in 2021.

Community Outreach

- The ice rink has accommodated families with special needs with morning skating sessions.
- Therapeutic staff will run a program for special needs participants on the ice next week.

Partnership Report

- PRT staff writes a monthly article for YC Magazine. The December issue focused on all of the ways PRT gets information out to the public.

2020 Accomplishments and 2020 Goals (attached to official minutes)

- The commission made an edit to the 2020 Accomplishments. Commissioners discussed the importance of thanking the staff for an outstanding economic impact year.
- Edited documents will be distributed within the next week for an on-line vote.

Nominations for Officers

- Motions were made, seconded and unanimously approved to reappoint Commissioner Carroll as Chair of the Commission and Toy Rhea as Vice-Chair.

EXECUTIVE

SESSION: None.

ADDITIONAL

COMMENTS: The Southland Park playground and play surface was destroyed by an act of arson prior to Christmas. No eyewitnesses have come forward. Fire, Police and other City departments continue to work together to identify potential suspects. Commissioners offered suggestions such as monetary rewards for tips leading to convictions. In light of two playgrounds destroyed by arson, staff continues to research how departments across the country are handling similar cases. Commissioner Carroll asked that the City focus on prevention v. punishment as the damage is done.

The Rock Hill Parks Foundation is working with PRT staff to design small plaques commemorating the Foundation for monetary grants to facility projects.

NEXT MEETING: February 2, 2021, 6 PM on Zoom

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Helms