

PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Sports & Event Center

6:00 PM

MINUTES

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

CITIZEN

COMMENTS: Mayor Gettys addressed the commission to discuss movement on the next regional park for Rock Hill and the importance of including park property neighbors in the planning process. The new park is projected to be on the south side of Rock Hill, but the location is not yet finalized.

The Southside Redevelopment Plan along with the Clinton ConNEXTion plan will have a major impact on Rock Hill over the next 30 years. A proposed tax increment district will create the necessary revenue from new business to fund all-inclusive redevelopment of the area.

The Panthers Project on 240 acres is well underway. Mayor Gettys explained the contract negotiation process and the project funding plan.

STAFF

HIGHLIGHT: Adrian Perry joined PRT in 2015 and has primarily worked in maintaining downtown Rock Hill and providing support to special events. Adrian has recently been promoted to work at the new inclusive Miracle Park which opens on September 18.

MINUTES: The August 3, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

OLD

BUSINESS: Strategic Plan Update (attachments to official minutes)

- Commissioners discussed the importance of keeping to the vision and history of the south side of Rock Hill when planning the regional park.
- PRT will play an integral role in program development at the Panthers Project. Additionally, the City will gain trails/greenways and a passive park on the site. PRT will maintain high-end streetscapes within the development. The overall project will require additional PRT staff.
- The Miracle Park Grand Opening drop-in event is Saturday September 18 from 4-7 PM. PRT will operate, maintain, and program the park after the community-planned opening.

Master Plan Update

- The City (PRT) merger with Visit York County (VYC) has been approved by City Council and the VYC Board. Approval by York County has not been finalized.
- The BMX Supercross Track changes and refurbishment project begins this week. The final phase of the River Park trail is substantially complete. The park being developed by Duke Energy on Lake Wylie is expected to be open by summer 2022. Carroll Park improvements are underway.
- Outdoor sports tourism facilities hosted 6 events in August with a \$2.1 million direct economic impact. The Sports & Event Center hosted 3 events in August with a \$3.2 million direct economic impact.

- The Memorandum of Understanding for the Victory Garden at Emmett Scott has been signed by both parties and is underway.
- The City has secured Adidas for an event July 7-22, 2022. The top high school men and women basketball teams and 1,000 top coaches will be on hand for the event.

NEW

BUSINESS: Advisory Committee Report (attachments to official minutes)

- Commissioner Coleman reported on summer activities at Boyd Hill Recreation Center and with Rec in a Box. Also, volunteer Julie Joyner brought summer reading back to the recreation center this year. The Tap into the Arts event is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9.
- Nominations were brought forward for the Lifelong Learning Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Coleman, seconded, and approved to accept the nominees. The fall semester kick-off is scheduled for September 8. Krista Hayes has been hired to work directly with this program.

Park Update (attachments to official minutes)

- Miracle Park Regulations and Miracle Park Playground Rules were presented for consideration. The playground rules include additional language due to the inclusive nature of the playground. A motion was made by Commissioner Rhea, seconded, and approved to accept the rules and regulations as presented.

Program Report

- Most youth sports programs have increased near to pre-Covid registration numbers.
- The recreational soccer partnership with Independence Soccer Club is moving along without issues. Fall program registration is currently at 500 youth.

Community Outreach Report

- Primo Investments were approved by City Council for sponsorship of two media screens at the Sports and Event Center over a 4-year period. The firm has 4 hotel properties in Rock Hill.

Partnership Report

- The African American Cultural Resources Advisory Committee (AACRAC), appointed by the Public Parks and Recreation Commission, is considering separation from the City. They continue to skirt the authority of the Public Parks and Recreation Commission and persist in reaching out to other City departments and City Council-appointed boards for assistance with projects. Their next meeting is Tuesday, September 14, 10:30 AM in Room 373 at City Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A motion was made at 7:15 to go into Executive Session to discuss privileged information.
- A motion was made 7:30 PM, seconded and approved to leave Executive Session.
- No votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

ADDITIONAL

COMMENTS: None.

NEXT MEETING: October 5, 2021, Location TBD

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Helms