

Recreation Advisory Board
May 16, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Nic Palmer, Daniel Brown, Alan Swank, Travis Gatling, Brandon Thompson

City Staff: Terri Moore, Andrew Chiki

Guests: No guests

Call to Order: The May meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 5:36 pm with Nic Palmer serving as chair in the absence of Chair, Mark Ferguson.

Approval of Minutes: Alan made a motion to accept the April meeting minutes with Travis seconding. The motion carried without dissent.

Director's Announcements

- Terri shared with the group that a new board member has been recommended to join, Shawna Switzer. Her nomination should be approved at the next city council meeting.
- COMCorps member, Caroline Canning visited City Council and made an update about the work she has done over the last year.

Old Business

Arts and AMAC

- Brandon attended the last AMAC meeting and reported that much of the discussion was about art and not so much about the Arts, Parks & Recreation department. It was a lengthy discussion and a portion was devoted to identifying things in parks. There is a desire to share more information between the Recreation Advisory Board and AMAC.
- Terri suggested that both groups either meet quarterly or twice a year. Alan stated that twice a year should be sufficient.
- Terri explained to the advisory board that we need to know the Mayor's vision for the arts before making any plans. Alan agreed and stated that his biggest concern is how the future of arts would affect the department's budget.
- Terri also has asked Emily Beveridge to look at other agency models for how the arts are incorporated into parks and recreation departments.

Sandlot

- Terri would like to start drafting the new MOU now and plan on meeting with Sandlot in September. Sandlot is running a good program and we want to better the relationship.
- Alan would like to know what our costs would be to maintain W. State Street park complex if Sandlot was not there.

Friends of Arts, Parks & Recreation

- Terri shared more information on the formation of a “Friends of” non-profit to support APR. The vision would be a place to create scholarships, raising funds, and developing special projects.
- Andrew explained that one of the functions of a “friends of” group could potentially be to hold a D5 alcohol permit in order to sell alcohol at special events the department puts on.

Advisory Board Retreat

- Terri would like the advisory board to do some homework prior to the retreat and email her their thoughts in order to create an agenda and stay on track. It was decided that the retreat be on June 27 from 9am-1pm with lunch following. Brandon made a motion and Alan seconded for the date and time with full support from those present.

New Business

Farmer’s Market on City Property

- Alan attended a farmer’s market in Charlottesville, VA and brought back some perspective of what he saw. He encouraged the group to look it up. Alan also brought the current language of the City ordinance that governs a farmer’s market on city property – 0-150-13.

Monthly Calendar

- Alan brought up that Athens City Schools has a monthly calendar on their website that is pretty useful. He would like to see the APR department do something similar. Things like department sponsored events and registration periods.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.