

SMYRNA PARKS AND RECREATION PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2021

The monthly Smyrna Parks and Recreation Parks Advisory Board Meeting was held July 20, 2021, at Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center, Smyrna, Tennessee. Chairman Ernie Felts called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

PRESENT Thirteen people were present: Clay Phillips; Carl Boyd; Eli Victory; Ernie Felts; Gracie Dugan; Charles Scurr; Mike Moss, Director; Jimmy Stitt, Kay Arnold, staff; Brian Hercules, Town Manager; Rex Gaither, Assistant Town Manager; Charles King, Town Engineer
Mark Hardy, guest

ABSENT Councilmember H.G. Cole, Michael Potts, Mayor Mary Esther Reed, Tommy Williams

SUMMARY Prayer: Mark Hardy

Citizen's Comments: None

Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: Clay moved to approve June's minutes; Carl seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

Mike introduced Gracie Dugan, the newly appointed Parks Advisory Board Member, serving the remainder of Scott Poston's term. She then told the board members a little about her background.

Old Business: Concerning Review Highlights of Parks Master Plan final document, copies of the new Parks Master Plan were distributed to the board members. Mike reviewed the following areas:

- Page 6, Mission Statement
- Page 21, Strengths of the Parks Department
- Page 22, Weaknesses of the Parks Department
- Page 23, Score of Town's Parks and Recreation Department
- Page 25, Pointed out the area noted lack of sufficient tennis courts in parks system
- Page 51, Acres of parkland maintained by department
- Page 55, Indoor recreation facilities
- Page 64, Mike noted that he added East Depot District and Enon Springs Practice Area since the last Park Board meeting

Following the review, Mike stated that Town Council approved the Parks Master Plan at July's Council Meeting.

Concerning Local Parks and Recreation Fund Grant Presentation, Mike stated that one of the requirements for the LPRF Grant application is to present a PowerPoint of your grant project at two public meetings. The public meeting dates are July 20th and August 5th, here at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center. The first public meeting will be held immediately following this meeting tonight.

After completing the PowerPoint, Mike invited questions from the board.

Ernie asked if an indoor arena was included in the Master Plan. Mike replied there is a community center in the plan.

Ernie moved that the Parks Advisory Board support the Parks Master Plan as presented. Boyd seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business: None

Reports of Officers, Committees, or Staff: Mike reviewed upcoming events listed on the agenda. He reminded the board that Food Truck Friday is on Friday, July 23rd, at Cedar Stone Park. Ernie asked if we've ever considered a "dinner and movie" event. Mike replied that we discontinued the Movie in the Park events because the low attendance did not support the cost of the program. We may re-evaluate it. Blue Raider Blitz is scheduled on July 28th at Lee Victory Recreation Park and the board was encouraged to attend the event if possible. The SplashTown Pool will be open on weekends only once school starts back in August.

Director's Report: Mike reviewed his monthly report, adding that the Independence Day Celebration event has a larger footprint now for parking and viewing the fireworks show. The SOAC had 750 people visit on IDC event day. Courtney Morgan, SOAC Manager, and her staff presented their sponsorship package presentation to Jimmy and Mike recently and may present it to the Park Board at a future meeting. Mike mentioned that the tournament fees and ballfield rental fees have generated increased revenues for the department over the past year.

Council Report: Brian reviewed highlights from the latest meeting. One of the items on the agenda was the lease for the Lee Victory Recreation Park being renegotiated with the Smyrna Airport, so we now have a 25-year lease on the property. Brian added that there will be 10 LPR camera readers installed at entrances to several city parks soon. The camera readers will assist the police department in identifying stolen vehicles, stolen tags, and other criminal activity. They should help curtail crime throughout our park system.

Other: Mike noted that the department continues to work to correct the lighting issue at the Kuss Memorial. We are having problems acquiring needed materials to make the corrections. Work continues on the second entrance to LVRP from Nolan Drive. Work on the sewer project at Paul Johns Park continues. The project is taking much longer than was anticipated. Charles reported that work is progressing on Sam Ridley Parkway.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12pm.