

RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
5:00pm, Monday, January 13, 2020
City Hall Conference Room
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Present: Council members Moyer, Popson, and Smith

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Asst. Administrator Hanna, Asst. Director Ferrell

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Council Member Popson nominated Council Member Smith as Chair of the Recreation Committee. Council Member Moyer seconded the motion. Council Member Smith nominated Council Member Moyer as Chair.

Discussed ensued about Council Member Popson acting as Chair during his first term, to which he said he would like more committee experience prior to being a Chair. Both Council members Moyer and Smith expressed some concern about acting as Chairs for more than one committee.

A vote was taken with all in favor of Council Member Smith as Chair of the Recreation Committee.

Council Member Moyer nominated Council Member Popson as Vice Chair for the Committee. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor of Council Member Popson as Vice Chair of the Recreation Committee.

3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – November 4, 2019

Council Member Moyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting, and Council Member Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.

4. Citizen's Comments – none

5. Departmental Report – Assistant Director Ferrell

Assistant Director Ferrell gave a detailed activities report for the Recreation Department. She shared current classes and their attendance numbers in addition to upcoming registration dates for future classes and sports activities. Of note was the registration for summer day camp, which will be held March 2-13. Registration will be online, and participation in the summer day camps will be determined by lottery.

Non-resident fees for Recreation Department activities were briefly discussed. Administrator Fragoso indicated those fees could be looked at to determine if they need to be adjusted.

6. Old Business

A. Discussion of surfing lessons franchise agreement for Summer 2020

Administrator Fragoso said the two proposals received for the surfing lessons franchise were presented to the Committee in Executive Session at the November meeting. She indicated the goal is to have something in place for the summer season. Council Member Moye described the effort as a pilot program after receiving feedback from numerous citizens who shared they are driving their children to Folly Beach for surfing lessons.

MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion to modify the agenda to allow for an Executive Session, and Council Member Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion to go into Executive Session according to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss contractual matters related to a surfing lesson franchise agreement. Council Member Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee moved into Executive Session at 5:43pm. The Committee returned from Executive Session at 6:09pm. Council Member Smith stated that no decisions were made during Executive Session.

MOTION: Council Member Smith made a motion to reject the submitted proposals and to submit another RFP for the surfing franchise allowing for 1 instructor per 4 students ratio. Council Member Popson seconded the motion.

Council Member Moye said he would like for Administrator Fragoso to speak with those individuals who answered the original RFP before rejecting the proposals and provide follow-up recommendations at the February meeting. He expressed concern about the timeline for this effort and that it will not be ready for this coming summer.

VOTE: A vote was taken as follows:

Ayes: Popson, Smith

Nays: Moye

The motion passed.

B. Discussion about adding a community swimming pool at the Recreation Center and timeline for an advisory referendum in November 2020

Administrator Fragoso shared her notes from a conversation staff held with David Burt of LS3P Architects prior to the meeting. Rough cost estimates for a 6-lane, 25-yard pool (only) were approximately \$415,000 for an outdoor pool and \$4.5 million for an indoor pool. These estimates do not include the costs for ancillary spaces needs for a sports complex or the annual maintenance costs involved in running such a facility. Committee members discussed at length the additional costs that need to be considered. Council Member Popson said he would attempt to secure cost information from previous pool-related projects he has worked on.

Council Member Smith shared and read from a document, “Susan Hill Smith: Setting the stage for a swimming pool referendum,” and requested it be made part of the minutes. It is attached to these minutes.

Administrator Fragoso reviewed what she believes to be an aggressive timeline of actions needed to be completed prior to the November 2020 election for the pool referendum to be on the ballot. She said there are two options for a referendum: a non-binding advisory referendum or a debt-limit bond referendum. If it is determined that money is to be borrowed, then drawings and concrete numbers for construction, long-term maintenance, and possible property tax increase will be needed.

Committee members discussed the makeup of the proposed Citizens Advisory Board for this effort as well as the specific tasks assigned to that group. Administrator Fragoso said that citizen survey results should be compiled so they can be discussed by the Committee at the March meeting. Depending on the results, the Committee could look for possible funding sources for architectural plan development in the Recreation building fund budget. Noting this would be an unbudgeted expense, Administrator Fragoso wondered about Council’s desire to pay for the plans in this budget year. She reminded Committee members that the plan for a pool was removed from the Recreation Departments 10-year capital plan a few years ago. A brief discussion ensued about whether or not to sole source the architectural plans.

She also pointed out that costs for the drainage project, the Public Safety building rehabilitation project, the repair to the marina docks are in the forefront of the City’s concerns and should be considered when pursuing a bond issue option. She noted a referendum could cover more than one issue and be held at a time other than the 2020 General Election. Committee members agreed that an advisory referendum may be more reasonable in the proposed timeline as well as in light of the other major expenses facing the City.

MOTION: Council Member Moye made a motion to recommend the City staff create a Citizen Advisory Board for the swimming pool referendum question in 2020. Council Member Popson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

A. Review of the Recreation Department’s 10-year Capital Plan and discussion of new initiatives and projects for consideration

Administrator Fragoso distributed the 10-year Capital Plan for the Recreation Department and asked Committee members to review it for input on any special projects for consideration during the upcoming budget process. She stated the pool will need to be put back in the plan. She indicated there is a generator to be purchased during FY21. She also reported the City has an RFP out currently for grant writing services, and some of the items in the capital plan’s later years that could be possible subjects of grant proposals.

8. **Miscellaneous Business**

The next meeting of the Recreation Committee will be on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 5:00pm.

9. **Adjournment**

Council Member Moye made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Smith seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk