

RECREATION COMMITTEE
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 7, 2017

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 7, 2017 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmember Carroll and Kinghorn, Chair Rice, Administrator Tucker, Recreation Director Page, Assistant Administrator Fragoso and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Chair Rice called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Approval of Pervious Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Kinghorn moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 5 and the Special Meeting of April 20, 2017 as submitted; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Citizens' Comments

Mr. Bayer was not present to discuss the possibility of a Beach Wrestling Tournament.

4. Monthly Report

Director Page stated that many programs were ending for the summer but would resume in the fall. On Monday, June 12th, basketball, Wee Camp and Camp Summershine begin. With perfect weather, the Sand Sculpting competition was a big success; forty-eight (48) teams participated. Music in the Park was also a very successful event. Upcoming events include the IOP Beach Run in July and the eclipse event and the annual half-rubber tournament in August. The Department will also hold basketball, volleyball, soccer and art camps over the summer, plus a Shakespeare camp. Also included in meeting packets were the results of the survey related to adding a fitness space the Department put on "Survey Monkey." (A copy of the results is attached to the historical record of the meeting.)

Chair Rice asked whether teams from out of town still use Rec facilities for training during spring break, and Director Page replied that a couple of women's softball teams come in March and scrimmage against each other, but not as many as in the past. The Chair also inquired about registrations for the beach run, and the Director said they were coming in at the same pace as in previous years.

Based on the information in the survey, Director Page stated that she had done conservative computations for the income the City could derive if it chose to charge fees for use of the proposed fitness center. Using an annual fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) per year for residents and a ten dollar (\$10.00) charge for walk-ins, she determined that a fitness center could generate approximately forty-three thousand one hundred dollars (\$43,100) per year in revenue.

Councilmember Carroll commented that a friend goes to a fitness center in Mount Pleasant for the nominal fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per month and he thought that would be the type of facility the City would be competing against more so than the Senior Center in Mount Pleasant.

Director Page opined that many residents would join a fitness center at the Recreation Center to avoid leaving the island.

Councilmember Kinghorn added that seniors typically shy away from facilities where they would be working out next to twenty-somethings.

A factor of the survey that got the attention of the Director was that an age bracket – between 35 and 55 – responded that the Recreation Department currently fails to reach; she opined that a fitness center could draw that age group.

Councilmember Kinghorn asked the Director if the equipment vendors offered lease programs whereby the City could lease the equipment, maintain it and upgrade as needed.

According to Director Page, most fitness centers do lease their equipment, but she thought the City might want to lease the cardio equipment, like a treadmill, but not the resistance equipment because they do not need to be changed out often.

5. Old Business

A. Status of RFP for new fitness space

The bid opening is set for Tuesday, June 13th at 2:00 p.m.; the Director reported that four (4) architects have made site visits, and she expects three (3) to submit proposals.

B. Update on eclipse event

Director Page reported that the special glasses have been ordered and the t-shirts will be ordered shortly. Currently, the glasses will be available before the event for those who choose not to attend the event, and the t-shirts will go on sale before the event. The Director has been notified by CNN that they will be on the island; she has also learned that mobile phone carriers will have additional mobile towers on the island, anticipating the volume of usage related to the eclipse. The Director indicated that the event will be on the beach and encompass the area from The Windjammer to the County Park, a partner in the event. The children's games will be in an area close to the County Park, and the stage for the entertainers will be to the left of The Windjammer. She said that she has spoken with the Front Beach businesses to encourage their participation, but they are all expecting to be especially busy that day.

Chair Rice stated that the City must have plenty of water available on the beach for attendees since the event will be in the heat of an August afternoon.

According to the Director, ice cream will be available on the beach, but no food vendors will be on the beach to avoid their competing with local restaurateurs, and she thought, at least, one (1) vendor would have water.

East Cooper Hospital will provide a first aid tent on the beach.

Administrator Tucker said that she has been told that the City should expect the crowd for the eclipse to be much larger than the crowd that typically comes to the island for the July 4th fireworks.

6. New Business – None

7. Miscellaneous Business – None

The Committee agreed that the results of the RFP for the fitness space could be taken straight to the Ways and Means Committee and that a meeting in July would not be necessary.

Next Meeting Date: 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 2, 2017 in the Conference Room

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Councilmember Kinghorn moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 a.m.; Councilmember Carroll seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

**Marie Copeland
City Clerk**