

RECREATION COMMITTEE

8:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2009

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at the Recreation Center, 24 Twenty-eighth Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Chairwoman Rice, Committee members Buckhannon and Duffy, City Administrator Tucker, Director Page, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland.

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

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 14, 2009 as submitted; Chairwoman Rice seconded and the motion **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

3. **Citizens' Comments** - None

4. January Departmental Report – Director Page

Director Page reported that members of the Fire Department have added their name to the list of attendees at the Sports Conditioning class of the Employee Wellness Program that meets on Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15 p.m. She announced that boater education and hunter education classes will be held in March, and the grand opening for the Frisbee golf course will be held during spring break. As basketball winds down in February, registration is being held for baseball. Island Arcade Day, held Saturday, January 24th, was a big success; sixty-two (62) bicycles were registered during the event. The Director invited the Committee to participate in the February events; they are the Lowcountry Blues Bash on February 7th and 8th, Cupid's Card Shoppe on February 11, "Alice in Wonderland" on February 19 through 21, and the always popular Doggie Day at the Rec on February 28th.

5. **Old Business** - None

6. New Business

Review of Capital Budget for FY 2009-2010

The following items make up the Recreation Capital Budget for FY 2009-2010:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Additional/replacement playground equipment | \$10,000 |
| PARD grant to offset playground equipment | (2,000) |
| Tow behind aerator & lift for grassy areas | 5,200 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Replace basketball scoreboard in gym | 5,000 |
| Additional security cameras 2 interior and 3 exterior | 5,000 |
| Sound system for Low Tide/High Tide Rooms | 5,000 |
| Rec Trac software upgrade | <u>3,500</u> |
| Sub-Total Capital Budget FY 2009-2010 | \$31,250 |
| Maintenance -Topdress playground | 5,000 |
| Non Capital Special Projects | |
| Reserve to reconfigure ball fields, replace lights | 150,000 |

Director Page informed the Committee that there was no item in the Recreation FY 2009-2010 Capital Budget about which she was passionate. She stated that her vehicle and the department's truck were scheduled to be replaced in this budget year, but she had moved the replacements into FY 2010-2011 because the vehicles were not experiencing any mechanical problems.

The Director stated that the purchase or replacement of playground equipment was in the budget each year and that she usually receives a PARD grant to offset some of the cost. She did note that the PARD grants are smaller now than in the past. As for the aerator, she remarked that the department could do without it for another year since they have never had one. She said the basketball scoreboard could be pushed out a year since it did still work and would not be used again until next winter. Director Page informed the Committee that she had met with a consultant about areas that were not presently covered by security cameras. There has been some vandalism in the gym, so an additional camera would be placed there and a second in the hallway on the right, facing toward the door at the end. One of the exterior cameras would be in the parking lot; the camera at the front door has been turned toward the pay phone at the request of the Police Department because young people were placing 911 calls from it. A second exterior camera would be at the back covering the back door and the area of the dog park that is not currently covered; the third exterior camera would be at the front to provide another angle of the playground. The Director stated that a member of the Committee was interested in having a sound system for the Low Tide/High Tide Room. She informed the Committee that she would like to see the Rec Trac upgrade because the company was no longer installing Version 9 that the Recreation Department is using; the current version is 10.1 or 10.2. Despite the fact that the system works, Director Page indicated that there were changes to the athletic program software that would be good for the department; she also noted that there would come a time when the upgrade would be required and that it would be more extensive and more expensive. (Councilman Duffy suggested that Director Page find out how long the company will support Version 9 and make the decision based on that.)

The Director also noted that, under Non-capital Special Projects, there was the annual addition of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) to the reserve to reconfigure the ball fields and replace the lights. And, lastly, the annual top-dressing of the playground for five thousand dollars (\$5,000) was indicated under Maintenance.

In the course of discussion of the sound system, Director Page clarified that the system would be placed in the exercise rooms, not a room used for presentations or productions; she reminded the Committee that the system had been in the original plans. Councilman Buckhannon expressed his full support for additional or replacement playground equipment and additional security cameras. When the Rec Trac software was discussed, the Director indicated that she was unsure if they were looking at an upgrade or an update. Councilman Buckhannon recalled that funds had been budgeted for FY 2008-2009 for software and that possibly there were funds remaining to pay for the "upgrade."

The Committee and Director agreed to move everything except the playground equipment and the security cameras to FY 2011. Director Page stated that, if she did not have to spend ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) on playground equipment, she would not, but she would spend enough to match the PARD grant as required by the grant. Councilman Buckhannon suggested that the Director determine exactly what she needs and to put the estimated figure in the budget rather than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

Administrator Tucker asked if PARD funds could be used to pay for security cameras; Director Page said that she knew the grant had to be used for something new and permanent, but she would find out about the cameras.

Chairwoman Rice mentioned the possibility of establishing a water station in the dog park; Director Page remembered pricing one and found it to be very expensive. Administrator Tucker recalled that the fees from the Water and Sewer Commission contributed heavily to the expense.

As the discussion was ending, Director Page explained that she had omitted certain items from the Recreation Maintenance Budget; the items to be added are the replacement of servers for Rec Trac and the security cameras, carpet replacement in the offices and lobby, floor replacement in the expansion area and the gym floor replacement.

Administrator Tucker reminded the Committee members that she had sent them an email stating that the Department Managers had been charged with establishing a long-term plan for capital purchases, as well as other items that are either visionary or items that have been discussed at some time in the past. That long-range plan is what makes

up the balance of the budget schedule. Administrator Tucker emphasized that the long-range schedule is a plan and not, in any way, a commitment to spend.

In the course of discussing the long-range plan, Director Page commented that the programs that are loaded on the City's computers cost the City more than the laptops; Councilman Duffy suggested that it would benefit the City to invest in an "enterprise" license that would allow the City to purchase one (1) license for a particular software then load it on as many computers as it chooses.

Two (2) controversial items had also been added, i.e. a swimming pool for two and a quarter million dollars (\$2,250,000) and a gymnasium for two and a half million dollars (\$2,500,000). These items had been included in the Master Plan for the Recreation Center, and the Committee agreed to leave them in the planning budget.

7. Miscellaneous

Director Page informed the Committee that she had received a telephone call from the Republican Party requesting to hold a meeting at the Recreation Center on Saturday, March 21. Chairwoman Rice recalled that the same request had been made a year ago, and the Committee was not in favor of allowing it. Administrator Tucker remembered that, when the request was made previously, a position had been taken that had gone through Council not to allow this type of meeting at the Center.

Next Meeting Date: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 4, 2009

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to adjourn at 9:27 a.m.; Councilman Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk