

RECREATION COMMITTEE
5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 4, 2009

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at the Recreation Center, 24 Twenty-eighth Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Vice chair Duffy, Committee member Buckhannon, City Administrator Tucker, Recreation Director Page, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; the absence of Chairwoman Rice was excused.

1. Vice Chair Duffy 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 February 4, 2009 as submitted; Vice chair Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. **Citizens' Comments - None**
4. **Recreation Department Report – Director Page**

Director Page reported that the Employee Wellness Program is still going very well and the Fire Department has become more involved. The February trip to the tea plantation for Keenagers has been rescheduled for March. Due to the number of participants, the gymnastics and tumbling classes were combined.

The Director noted that for the January Middle School dance approximately one hundred (100) young people attended while there were only about fifty (50) at the February dance. As a result, the staff will re-evaluate the dances; one suggestion has been to have only two or three (2-3) dances a year and to have a different theme for each. Director Page stated that, since there were only three (3) dances remaining for this year, they would complete the year as planned; Administrator Tucker noted that the Middle School dances have been staff intensive events and that, if there was not the participation desired, the Department should be looking for some kind of alternative to put the City's resources to use elsewhere. The Director said that the young people had told her at the last dance that many were attending a competing event at the school; for that reason, Director Page stated that she would like to go forward with the March dance before making any decision about the remainder of the school year.

The Tae Kwon Do Tournament will be held March 28, and the Isle of Palms Recreation Department will be taking an active roll this year by registering the contestants and making it more of a recreational event.

During the week of spring break, there will be a different event or focus each day. On Tuesday of that week, April 7, there will be the ribbon cutting for the Frisbee Golf Course that will include a tournament.

A new program to be offered for the seniors, Living Well, is the product of a grant through Roper-St. Francis and the Lowcountry Senior Center; it is designed to help people cope with pain and manage health problems for an increased quality of life. There will be two (2) six-week courses; one will begin March 12 and the second will begin April 23. Since this program is funded by a grant, seniors may attend at no charge.

A Saturday yoga class will begin April 25 and run from 10 –11 am. Baseball starts March 14, and the parents' and coaches' meetings have taken place. The softball coaches' meeting will be held tonight.

Both the Blues Bash and the productions of "Alice in Wonderland" were great successes. In an effort to keep the young people involved in theatre, the Department will be putting on "The Wizard of Oz" for Piccolo Spoleto Goes to the Beach and will have a theatre workshop later in the summer.

In April, the Department will host both the Easter Egg Hunt and the annual Yard Sale. The East Cooper Triathlon will be held on Sunday, April 19.

5. Old Business

Review of Capital Budget FY 2009-2010

Administrator Tucker explained that there was a second review at this meeting because there had not been sufficient time for capital budgets to be discussed at the Ways and Means February meeting. She stated that there was an additional page that the Committee had not seen before that addressed the source of funds for the capital budget expenditures.

6. New Business

Review of Operating Budget FY 2009-2010

As in all departments, salaries are shown including an average 2% merit increase and 1.9% COLA. Administrator Tucker stated that typically the COLA mirrored the amount given – on state level – for the actual cost of living allowed for the millage increase; this year that percentage is 3.8%. Given the conservative fiscal climate, she and the Treasurer called other local governments and decided that 1.9% was reasonable for the COLA. Director Page will hold both part-time and instructors' salaries at the same level as the current budget. An increase of ten percent (10%) has been factored into the health insurance; the actual amount of increase will not be known until further into the budget process, and workers compensation insurance has been increased five percent (5%). The increase to *Printing and Office Supplies* is based on actual due to printing the activity guide three (3) times a year. The *Telephone and Cable* line has increased to cover twelve (12) full months of the radio charge from Charleston County; this year's budget was based on only eight (8) months' charges. (The Recreation Department has eight (8) walkie-talkies and 2 radios.) Since some of the Department's equipment is aging, the expense for *Maintenance and Service Contracts* has been increased; a slight increase has been made to *Cleaning and Sanitary Supplies* primarily because of the added use of the building. No increases have been applied to Recreation Program/Instruction Expense. All of this results in an overall increase to the Recreation budget of only two percent (2%).

Administrator Tucker explained there were two (2) additional pages that indicated (1) what expenses were paid with State Accommodations Taxes and (2) detail on the Recreation Building Fund, which exists as a result of donations to the Department over the years.

7. Miscellaneous

Next Meeting Date: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2009

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to adjourn at 5:45 p.m.; Vice chair Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk