



**Town of Clayton
Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
October 8, 2018 6:00pm
Clayton Community Center**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Emily Beddingfield
Rebecca Bradford
Alexis Lisenby
Dean Penny
Karen Phinazee
Mike Surasky
Ted Willer

STAFF PRESENT:

Lauren Lambert, Parks and Recreation
Administrative Support Specialist
Butch Lawter, Town Councilman
Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program
Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Richard Champion
Travis Crowder
Ruth Hunt
Marty Kornegay
Toby Williamson

1 CALL TO ORDER

- a) This meeting was called to order at 6:05pm
Board Member Bradford

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) **POTENTIAL ACTION: Approval of April 9, May 14 and June 11, 2018 Minutes**

Approval of April, May and June 2018 Minutes.
Board Member Willer
Board Member Penny
Unanimous

3 OLD BUSINESS

- a) **Harmony Playground Update**
Presenter: Dean Penny

Mr. Penny began speaking about the playground and mentioned how as of right now they have raised about 390,000 of their 800,000 goal. The Gala is coming

up soon, and they are making a major push to sell tickets for the October 20th event. They are looking to have about 300 attend however the space can hold up to 400. There will be a live auction with 30-40 or more items up for grabs. It would be great for a representative from the committee to be there. Tickets will be on sale through Sunday. Nova Nordisc has agreed to help with the brick campaign. Dean informed the committee that although the flyers say black tie, a tuxedo is not required. Attendance is more important than attire. Chris Hendrix, Amy Write and Deborah Morgan will be special guests. Alexis asked if Dean had a list of people who have donated, and Dean said that there is a list, however he doesn't have it on hand. They are currently trying to get the word out to parents and different school groups who will benefit from the playground. They do envision this being an annual event, and once the playground is built the money will go towards something else. Dean spoke about the foundation committee and the Larry Bailey Scholarship. This scholarship has raised a little over \$6,300 since Larry retired and the money will be used for children who are unable to pay to participate in the programs offered through Parks and Recreation. A Larry Bailey Community Service Award will be handed out at the gala and the first recipient will be Lee Hudson.

b) **Disc Golf Course**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion opened up by telling the board that we have been asked to host a tournament. Due to the hurricane the course they were looking to play at got ruined so we have been asked to host the tour championship. All tee boxes on the short course will be completed soon and we will hopefully be hosting a few clinics this Spring.

4 NEW BUSINESS

a) **Larry Bailey Scholarship**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Dean Penny spoke about this above.

b) **Senior Games**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion spoke about the Senior Games, and talked about how we recently hosted the State Finals for bocce and cornhole. We have hosted these games previously and they were once again a success. We received high praises from senior games staff and we will hopefully be asked to host again next year. We are one of the few bocce courts that are centrally located in the state. We are always in need of volunteers for bocce and cornhole. Mr. Lorion handed out the 2019 Senior Games Flyer so that everyone present could take a look and see what we have to offer. He advised members that if they have friends or family over 50, we are always looking for participants. It is 2.5 weeks of a lot of fun! Dates will usually vary but stay around the same time frame. As the games get closer, there will be reminders and information sent out if you have an interest in volunteering. We highly encourage people that even if they don't want to help out, come watch! Mr. Willer informed the group that if they ever want to see a true example of sportsmanship, they need to go watch. This year we had

around 268 participants, goal in 2019 will be to get above 300 participants.

c) **July 4, 2018**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion opened up by thanking those who volunteered at this years July 4th event. It's a day that could never have been done without volunteers. Karen continues to do a wonderful job with Bingo every year. Unfortunatly this year we had two vendors who had some issues with the electricity and some of the truck equipment messed up. Due to this incident, we will no longer be providing power to food trucks and vendors, they will need to provide their own generator. Mrs. Bradford mentioned how this will leave great flexibility and location freedom for many of the vendors. We will be able to rearrange the event if we wanted to. From the event this year, we came away with a profit of just over \$4,500. As a Town and department it is believed that we can achieve more than that. We have oppurtunties to push ticket sales prior to the event, and we need to really work on reaching out to local buisnesses about donating raffle prizes. Mr. Dean Penny mentioned that in years prior there have been ticket books given to our town baseball teams and we have had them pre-sell tickets. The oppurtunity to really make a difference is there, we just need to follow through. Mr. Lorion asked if any memebers attend food truck rodeos often, and if they do that they should get contact information from anyone they really enjoy. The earlier we get vendors reserved the better chance we have of getting new faces out there. We will need to start securring people around January since they all book up fairly quickly for July 4th events.

d) **Tennis Court Repairs**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion let the members know that we had the tennis courts out at Clayton Community Park resurfaced about years ago with a grant, and since then there have been some cracks that have reappeared. We recently had a gentlemen come and repair those cracks. The fill in color may look slightly different in color due to it being new and not faded. Only the tennis courts at that specific park have been repaired.

e) **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Vacancies**

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion spoke about the open positions on the board and the positions that will open up at the end of the year. There will be 4 vacancies, and if the two members who are currently serving do not wish to reapply then we will have 6 vacancies total. If anyone knows someone who may be interested, please send them our way. We will have to get with the Town Clerk regarding these positions. The final round of assessments will be tomorrow for the Director of Parks and Recreation position. We will hopefully have someone in the position sooner rather than later. We posted the position on the NC Parks and Recreation website as well as the Town of Clayton website. Once a decision is made we will let the council know.

Mrs. Emily Beddingfield asked about the plans for the future of Municipal Park. She said that they previously seemed to be identified as a top plan for the Town

but hasn't heard much about progress. Mr. Penny responded to her by letting her know that the plans we previously saw were very preliminary. The plan was mostly a concept to generate ideas and to see what possibly could happen in the future there. Mrs. Beddingfield mentioned that in her mind, she saw this as a gateway into the town. The greenway is sort of ending there and it's close to Downtown.

5 STAFF REPORTS

a) October Special Events, Athletics and Programs

Presenter: Matt Lorion, Parks and Recreation Program Supervisor

Mr. Lorion stated that the Parks and Recreation department had its Touch A Truck event yesterday and it was a success. Lots of people showed up, and many vehicles had lines of people waiting to climb up. We switched things up this year and had people park on the grass and vehicles parked in the parking lot. It seemed to have worked well. Mr. Lorion spoke about upcoming Halloween events, such as the Halloween Hayride on Friday the 26th and the special needs dance on Saturday the 27th. We are in need of volunteers for both, so if you are willing and able please help us out. We will be having our Annual Downtown Trick or Treat event on a new date this year. It will be on Tuesday October 30th starting at 4:30. These changes have been made so that more children are able to attend with a 4:30 start as opposed to a 2:30 start. The Clayton Youth Council helps out with this event. Mr. Lorion began discussing the classes and programs offered at the Community Center this Fall. We have 4 new fitness classes that have started up. Pound, Dance Fitness with Jenn, Stability Ball Strength and Body Blast. He encouraged members to grab a new Fall brochure on their way out. Fall athletics are underway and the season will be coming to an end shortly. We have opened up basketball registrations and so far we have 735 players registered with a prediction of more to come. It will be another busy season.

6 ADJOURN

Chair

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board