

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

4:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2012

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 4 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2012 in Council Chamber of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Thomas and Ward, Chair Bergwerf, City Administrator Tucker, Director Page, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland; a quorum was present to conduct business.

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

### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

**MOTION: Councilmember Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2012 as submitted; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### 3. Citizens' Comments – None

### 4. Department Report for January 2012 – Director Page

January was a typical busy month for the Recreation Department. Nine (9) young people participated in the Red Cross babysitting course, and nine (9) ballerinas attended the most recent ballet class. The Keenagers continue to enjoy the monthly potluck lunches and accompanying programs. A Middle School dance will be held on Friday, March 9; two (2) days of School's Out Activities will take place in February. The writing classes have been so popular that a second was added; nine (9) people are in the "Writing from Memory" class, and an evening session of "Legacy Writing" started February 1. The Photography Contest is in full swing with the deadline for submissions being Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Thus far, nine (9) people have registered for the table tennis league. In the area of athletics, eight (8) teams make up the Co-ed Volleyball League; the regular season concludes on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. The First Pitch Half-Rubber Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, and the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Half-Rubber Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Youth basketball is winding down just in time for baseball registration; fast start baseball for the three and four (3 and 4) year olds is full with all Isle of Palms residents. Efforts are being made to have a girls' softball team; if successful, they will participate in the Mount Pleasant Recreation Department league. The Lowcountry Blues Bash will take place over the coming weekend; tickets are five dollars (\$5) with children under twelve (12) being admitted for free.

Administrator Tucker reminded Director Page to dim the lights for the performances; she indicated that doing it last year had made a big difference.

Councilmember Thomas asked where the money went that came from the Blue Bash; Director Page said that the money went into the General Fund.

Councilmember Ward offered the use of lights and a lighting system that he has, as well as his services to operate them.

One of the most popular events of the year – Doggie Day at the Rec – will be held on Saturday, February 25. Dr. Biascoechea will be on hand for vaccinations, and the City's Animal Control Officer will be selling dog licenses. The competitions in ten (10) different categories will begin at 10 a.m.

Among the craft workshops that are coming up is Cupid's Card Shop on February 9<sup>th</sup>, St. Patty's crafts on March 15<sup>th</sup> and Egg-cellent craft for coloring and decorating Easter eggs will be Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The City's Wellness Committee met January 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to increase participation that ranged from topics for Wellness Connections to incentives for participants to re-designing the newsletter. With cooperation from East Cooper Hospital, the Wellness Committee plans to sponsor a cancer screening in March or April.

**5. Old Business – None**

**6. New Business**

**A. Review of Capital Budget for FY2012-2013 and Long-Range Capital Plan**

Today's review is a first, but by no means the last, review of the Recreation Department's capital budget for FY13. Included in it are items that were deferred from previous years or have moved up for imminent replacement in the capital plan. With two (2) new members to the Committee, Administrator Tucker opted to review the budget in detail.

Additional/replacement playground or scoreboard equipment	\$10,000
Included each year as placeholder when the need arises; nothing spent in FY12	
Replace basketball scoreboard in gymnasium	5,000
Deferred in previous year; all other scoreboards have been replaced	
Rec Trac software upgrade (FY13 amount for credit card upgrade)	6,000
City trying to make move to accept credit cards; cost of credit card upgrade; the expense for FY14 represents the routine upgrade costs associated with the software	
Replace admin vehicle (2004 Explorer with 80,000 miles)	25,000
Deferred in previous two budget years; currently no mechanical problems with it	
Replace staff computers (6 computers/4 yr life = approx. 1.5/year)	2,000
Computers for Kerrie and Ben are due for replacement	
Replace soccer goals (FY13 amount for new purchase of med size)	8,000
New goals, not replacement, 2 sets of 2 nets	
Replace HVAC units in gymnasium	40,000
Existing units are past life expectancy; placeholder for replacement upon failure	
Replace cardio equipment (1 treadmill, 1 elliptical, 1 recumbent bike)	13,000
Per Director, have been deferred in past, but must be replaced now	
Construct sand volleyball court	27,000
Included per citizen request; only sand court on island at Windjammer, not appropriate for teenagers; existed in past, but not kept up due to loss of interest	
Replace floor scrubber	5,000
Frequently used, 1997 model; in working order now, but showing wear	
John Deere Z-TRAK Mower	10,000
Last replaced in 2007; in very poor condition	

Reserve to reconfigure baseball/softball fields & replace lights 150,000  
 Long-range plan includes turning the fields around with home plate nearer the building entrance; lights in extremely bad condition with rotted wiring and rusted brackets; considered impractical, due to costs, to replace lights without reconfiguring the site; cost estimates for entire project is \$3 million dollars, with half million for the lights alone; Chair believes lights will fail soon and City will be hard-pressed to get additional funding to reconfigure the ball fields; Administrator is hopeful of finding a grant or partnership to accomplish the full project. The current reserve is approximately \$425,000.

The items that fall under Facility Maintenance are routine annual replacements, i.e. topdressing for the playground, the sand/clay mix for the ball fields, etc.

Administrator Tucker noted that, in March, the Committee will have the operating budgets for discussion.

Councilmember Ward asked which items would be replaced if included the budget and which items were placeholders contingent upon equipment failure. He noted that the construction of a sand volleyball court had been included at the request of one (1) citizen, and he had understood that the City had sand courts in the past that were not maintained because they were not used. Chair Bergwerf agreed that sand volleyball is gaining in popularity, but thought that the addition of the construction of courts in the FY13 capital budget was premature. Director Page noted that, with the addition of sand volleyball to local school sports teams, they may be looking for practice sites.

Responding to Councilmember Ward's request, Director Page indicated which items in the proposed capital budget would be purchased if included and which items were placeholders anticipating equipment failures as follows:

Replace if included in FY13 Capital Budget

Replace admin vehicle	25,000
Replace staff computers	2,000
New med-size soccer goals	8,000
Replace cardio equipment	13,000
Replace Z-TRAC mower	10,000

Placeholders

Addnl/Replace playground/scoreboard equip	10,000
Replace basketball scoreboard in gymnasium	5,000
Rec Trac software upgrade	6,000
Replace HVAC units in gymnasium	40,000
Replace floor scrubber	5,000
Construct sand volleyball courts	27,000 *only if instructed by Council

**B. Prioritization of Projects Greater than \$250,000**

Administrator Tucker explained that this exercise is repeated every couple of years and that it is useful to staff because it helps to understand the direction that the policy-setting body is taking. Another reason for reviewing the list this year is that Council has a new makeup and now the new members have the opportunity to know what kinds of projects the City is pondering for the

future. For the Councilmember who reviewed the list in 2009, the Administrator reported that a couple of items had been added back to the list for this initial review, i.e. the 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue roundabout and the beachfront outpost. Between now and the March meeting, the Administrator asked that the Committee members look at the list globally – with more than the Recreation Department in mind, to enable the Committee to prioritize a list of five (5) projects. From the priority list from each Committee, staff will generate one (1) list that is a compilation of all for submission to the Ways and Means Committee.

#### **7. Miscellaneous Business**

Next Meeting Date: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 14, 2012 in Council Chambers.

#### **8. Adjourn**

**MOTION: Councilmember Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m.; Councilmember Ward seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland  
City Clerk