

RECREATION COMMITTEE
4:00 p.m., Monday, February 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 4:00 p.m., Monday, February 11, 2013 in the City Hall Conference Room, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Carroll and Thomas, Chair Bergwerf, 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 of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2013 as submitted; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments – None**

4. Department Report for January 2013 – Director Page

Director Page remarked that registration for adult softball concludes on February 22nd as do adult basketball, men's soccer and co-ed soccer and the table tennis league. The First Pitch Half Rubber Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, March 23rd and a minimum of twelve (12) teams are expected to register. Basketball for ages five to fourteen (5 to 14) began January 7th and the Recreation Department has a total of eighteen (18) teams. Baseball registration continues until February 22nd for children aged three to twelve (3 to 12) years.

Director Page took this opportunity to state that she can guarantee that Sullivan's Island children who register within the registration period will be placed on teams, and, with the Committee's concurrence, Sullivan's Island children will be allowed the same registration period for sports as Isle of Palms children.

If enough girls register for softball, Mount Pleasant has agreed to allow the team to participate in their league; this activity is for girls between the ages of nine and eleven (9-11). All fitness classes are going well, as are dog obedience, yoga and senior exercise classes. Registration is underway for Jump Start and Tiny Tots programs; this program is Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The January Middle School Dance drew three hundred fifty (350) young people to the Rec Center to dance, sing and going down the double slide. Pilates is new to the list of program offerings; it is designed to promote movement, flexibility, core strength and increased range of motion. Tae Kwon Do continues to have strong participation, and the success of the tennis program has outpaced expectations. Fourteen (14) children took part in Cupid's Card Shop where they created their own Valentine's cards for their loved ones. One of the biggest events of the year is Doggie Day at the Rec that will be held on Saturday, February 23rd; dogs can get their vaccinations at a very reasonable price, and IOP Animal Control Officers will be on hand selling dog licenses. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 30th; last year over eight hundred (800) children participated in the fun. It is time to reserve space for the Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, April 20th.

Director Page announced that Christina Willson had resigned to take a job with her church that has shorter hours and will allow her to spend more time with her son. Holly Norton, who has been working part-time, has been made full time, and the hours for the position have changed to have a full-time employee on-site until the building closes at night.

When Berkeley Heating and Air did their bi-annual preventative maintenance, they found holes in the burner in units in the gymnasium; therefore, Assistant Dziuban is assisting Director Page in writing an RFB for a new unit. Replacement funding is in the FY13 budget.

Despite having the building available for three hundred fifty-three (353) hours in January, the Recreation Department incurred no overtime.

Chair Bergwerf asked if activities/programs were cancelled if the participation was too low; Director Page confirmed that classes have been cancelled. The Director said that often the success of an activity/program hinges on timing; it may not garner interest in January, but may fill up in September.

5. Old Business

Discussion of Open Registration for Recreation Programs and Sports

Director Page stated that, from the moment she assumed her position, it was obvious that "Isle of Palms embraced Sullivan's Island." The Director noted that some leagues cannot be formed without the participation of Sullivan's Island youths, and she is not aware of a situation when a Sullivan's Island child was left off a sports team if they registered within the registration period. The Director indicated that she nor her staff have any issues with Sullivan's Island youths registering for baseball, soccer or basketball at the same time as Isle of Palms' youths; for these three (3) sports, there can be an islands registration period and a non-resident registration period. If Sullivan's Island residents want to participate in other activities, they would need to be reviewed as they occur.

Assistant Dziuban confirmed that Sullivan's Island residents would continue to pay the non-resident fee.

Director Page said that she and her staff make every effort to accommodate residents; for instance, if a family that regularly participates in Recreation Department activities, but has not registered for a particular event, a staff member has called the family to ensure that they have the opportunity to register on time.

This discussion led to the question about on-line registration and on-line payments. Assistant Dziuban stated that the City is moving to accept credit card payments, but not on-line registration or payments, which carries a significant expense.

Councilmember Carroll was pleased to know that Mount Pleasant Recreation would allow a girls softball team to play in their league. Director Page explained that, every month, Charleston County Parks and Recreation hosts lunch for the area directors to talk, and none of the area directors want to compete with one another, but prefer to enhance one another's programs.

6. New Business

Review of FY14 Capital Budget and Long-Range Capital Plan

FY14 Capital Budget

Add/replace playground or scoreboard equipment (only with failure)	10,000
Replace basketball scoreboard in gymnasium (only with failure)	5,000
Replace admin vehicle (2004 Explorer, 89,000 miles)	25,000
Replace HVAC units in Expansion (only with failure) Original in 2004; 10 units in expansion.	15,000
Replace cardio equipment (1 treadmill, 1 elliptical, 1 recumbent bike) Will replace balance of old equipment)	13,000
Replace fencing on softball field (new fence will be higher for safety) Another phase of ball field reconfiguration; have had to replace windows in neighboring residences, and a woman was hit while walking on the cul-de-sac	52,000

The fencing will run from the tennis courts along 27th Avenue to the cul-de-sac, and the height is going to be raised for safety considerations. Councilmember Carroll said he had gone to the Recreation Center earlier in the day to inspect the fence, and it appeared to be in good shape; Director Page said it has rusted and needs to be replaced. Director Page also explained that the field is shorter than regulation length, meaning more balls go over the fence. A citizen has been hit by a ball; a higher fence could prevent further accidents.

Director Page reported that the fund that paid for the new lights has a remaining balance of approximately ninety-four thousand dollars (\$94,000) that could be used to cover the cost of the fence.

On the subject of the vehicle replacement, Councilmember Carroll thought the mileage was low, and that, if it is operating properly, the purchase could be moved to an out year. Assistant Dziuban recounted City's six-year (6 yr.) replacement cycle for all vehicles before maintenance expenses increase, and the fact that this replacement has been deferred at least twice.

Councilmember Thomas asked how the vehicle was used; Director Page explained that it is used by all members of the Recreation staff to run errands and to go out of town to meetings, conferences and training.

Director Page noted that the City does not have a fleet manager or mechanic on staff to maintain City-owned vehicles, but she does try to see to the maintenance of the vehicle. Currently it is running without any difficulties.

Chair Bergwerf stated that to get this vehicle purchase through Council, Director Page would need to impress upon them the multiple ways this vehicle is used by the Recreation Department.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 4:00 p.m., Monday, March 4, 2013 in the Conference Room.

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Carroll moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.; Councilmember Thomas seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland
City Clerk