

RECREATION COMMITTEE

4:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 2, 2011

The regular meeting of the Recreation Committee was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 in Council Chambers of City Hall, 1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were Councilmembers Buckhannon and Duffy, Chair Bergwerf, Administrator Tucker, Director Page and 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 Duffy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 6, 2011 as submitted; Councilmember Buckhannon seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments** – none

4. **Departmental Report for September/October 2011** – Director Page

According to Director Page, adult 3-on-3 basketball, that started in August, will be winding down in November, as will adult softball, but co-ed volleyball is now registering. Youth soccer is also concluding with two (2) teams tied for first place in the nine to twelve (9-12) age group; the tournament will begin shortly. In addition, a parent-player challenge was held on November 1, and the children won. Youth basketball registration is underway, and Friday Night Hoops and Spikes continue to be popular with youths and parents. Performances of "Catholic School Girls" will take place Wednesday through Saturday, November 16th – 19th; tickets are five dollars (\$5.00) with children six (6) and under getting free admission. The first meetings of Keenagers drew fifty-six (56) seniors in September and sixty-two (62) in October; a turkey shoot is planned for the November meeting. Three hundred (300) youths attended the first Middle School dance of the year; the next dance will be Friday, November 4th at 7 p.m. The annual Halloween Carnival was a big success – as usual. Upcoming events include the Holiday Card Drawing, Holiday Craft Workshop and Santa's Cookie Workshop; the annual tree lighting event will be Thursday, December 1st. A new event this December will be "Letters to Santa;" Nick has painted a mailbox to receive the children's letters, and Santa will answer each and every one. Director Page reported that Ben Hull had gotten married and that Will McElheny had travelled to Amsterdam in October, but the balance of staff had filled in as needed to keep operations running smoothly in their absences.

5. **Old Business** – None

6. **New Business**

A. Discussion of Outdoor Volleyball Courts at Recreation Center Site

MOTION: Councilmember Duffy moved to re-open Citizens' Comments; Chair Bergwerf seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Shawn Griffin, 19 Ocean Point Drive, stated that he has been a resident of the island for twelve (12) years; he was attending the meeting to discuss the feasibility of constructing outdoor volleyball courts at the Recreation Center. Mr. Griffin expressed the opinion that this sport is growing in popularity in the country and is under-served on the island presently. He informed the Committee that Sullivan's Island has two (2) courts and held tournaments the past year. He offered an aerial view of the Recreation Center site and pointed out a couple of areas that he thought would be suitable for volleyball courts. From his research, he stated that two (2) courts could be constructed for twenty-one thousand to twenty-two thousand dollars (\$21,000-22,000) and three (3) courts for approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000).

Chair Bergwerf agreed that volleyball courts would be a natural fit for the island, but explained that the City is experiencing a very tight budget cycle. The Chair asked Mr. Griffin about the possibility of having grass courts, which he thought would be a welcomed addition.

Director Page indicated that she had researched the addition of volleyball courts in March 2010; the estimate she got then was nineteen thousand seven hundred dollars (\$19,700) for one (1) fully installed court.

Since capital budget work for FY13 will begin next month, Director Page said she would get new estimates.

Administrator Tucker suggested that Mr. Griffin research grants that might be available to finance volleyball initiatives; he responded that he had done so and found that several organizations offer grants in five hundred dollar (\$500) amounts. On the other hand, he did offer to make a donation of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) from his business toward the project.

Director Page recalled that the Recreation Center had two (2) sand courts several years ago that were not used in the area of the picnic shelter, but she did acknowledge that the interest in volleyball has increased.

When Director Page asked what age group to target, Mr. Griffin responded nine to eighteen (9-18) years.

Chair Bergwerf thanked Mr. Griffin for attending the meeting and bringing the need before the Committee.

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 4, 2012

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilmember Buckhannon moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:31 p.m.; Councilmember Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:
Marie Copeland, City Clerk