



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2022

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Present:

Laura Copley, Chairman
Joe Cranford, Vice-Chairman
Keesha Starr, Member
Lynn Gavin, Member

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Absent:

None

Alternates Present:

Tim Wilson, Alternate
Richard Bourque, Alternate

Staff Present:

Athina Williams, Town Manager
Jim Bucher, Director of Parks & Recreation
Brenda Hewlett, Secretary

Others Present to Address the Board:

Chief Lovell Pierce, JR

Item #s - 1 AND 2 - CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Laura Copley called the June 9, 2022, Belville Parks & Recreation Board Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Chairman Copley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Item # 3 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION – Vice-Chairman Joe Cranford, **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the agenda. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 4 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION – Vice-Chairman Joe Cranford, **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes from May 12, 2022. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

ACTION – Member Lynn Gavin made the motion to excuse member Keesha Starr. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Town Manager, Athina Williams, introduced Ian McLeod, new employee who gave a brief biography on himself.

ITEM # 5 - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Belville Riverwalk Park Update

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher reported that he has Alex Long, Commissioner David Long's son, helping him for the summer. Alex has written all the names on the bricks to create a database. Eight memorial bricks were installed last week, by the Parks and Recreation Director and he said that Skip Wittkowsky donated a statue to the Town of Belville for the Veteran's Memorial. Jim has a beautification project going where the shelters will be repainted, and the Observation Deck will be stained. He added that we have 524 bricks in the Veteran's Memorial.

Town Manager reported that the Town had received a full reimbursement for the \$191,000 to fund the kayak launch project. The ADA issue for the kayak launch has been resolved. She stated that we are waiting on park sign from Southern Signs to be installed. They are creating a few small signs to add to the music pavilion.



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Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Bucher reported that the exit gate had been hit by a hit and run driver and we are waiting on the new gate to arrive.

1. UPDATE ON STORM RECOVERY / PARK REPAIRS

Park Director Jim Bucher reported that there has been washout near the fishing pier and the right side of the boat ramp. Town Manager Athina Williams reported that we are trying to get money to fix the washout.

ACTION – Alternate Richard Bourque made the motion to accept Keesha Starr in the meeting. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

ITEM # 6– NEW BUSINESS

a. Upcoming Events

1. Secretary Brenda Hewlett reported that the Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser made \$147.08. This helped to offset the cost of the Brunswick Big Band. We plan to do this again. It was a wonderful way to raise money and not have to physically work.
2. Secretary Brenda Hewlett reported that we had great participation. The attendees were dancing to the music and so many positive comments were received. We plan to do this again. Everyone enjoyed themselves.
3. Town Manager, Athina Williams related to the group that we are planning to have a Krispy Kreme doughnut fundraiser. The money will be used for a kid's event possibly at Christmas. We will do this digitally by phone.

4. Member Keesha Starr reported that Highway 55 also does fundraisers. She is going to check to see what requirements are for the Parks and Recreation Board. We would like to do this in August.

Chief Lovell Pierce, JR arrived and gave a brief description of the Skarure Woccon Fall Festival that will take place on October 8 and 9, 2022. He asked for several things from the Town of Belville, which all have been granted. He asked for assistance with securing the Belville Elementary School Parking Lot and with getting the Brunswick County Sheriff for traffic control. He told of the different activities that would take place. He would like to do a cultural event in November near Indigenous Peoples Day.

Town Manager Athina Williams asked Chief Pierce to take part in the July 23, 2022, 45th Anniversary Garden Party by talking about the cedar tree that they planted in the park.

5. Vice- Chairman Joe Cranford reported on the Youth Fishing Day. He has secured the rod and reels for thirty-six kids. He has contacted NC Wildlife to be onsite. Alternate member Tim Wilson has secured donations from Pure Fishing and Bluewater Candy. Secretary Brenda Hewlett has secured the tackle boxes, fishing rags, drinks, and snacks. We will collect the bait and other in-kind donations next week. Town Manager Athina Williams has a confirmation of a \$100.00 donation from Withers Ravenel.
6. Alternate member Tim Wilson reported on the Memorial Day Event. Next year he will use the park sound system. He said that the person did not show that was going to play TAPS. There were eighty-one people in attendance.
7. Chairman Laura Copley gave a brief report on ECO Explorer. We were contacted by the NC Arboretum, and they have received a grant for Brunswick County to implement their ECO-Explore program. The Town of Belville can have the three (3) signs if we Get our application filled out and returned. The Parks and Recreation Board requested that Town Manager Athina Williams sent to Board of Commissioners on Friday for approval.

Town Manager Athina Williams asked the Parks and Recreation board to look over the RFP she handed out for the Belville Riverwalk Park Canoe/Kayak/paddleboard Services. It is the final draft.

8. Town Manager Athina Williams would like to another event for the 45th Anniversary and she also stated that Angie's Produce will be the fresh produce vendor at the park.
9. The dates for the 2022-2023 fiscal year were approved by the board.



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a. Discussion and or Recommendations to Board of Commissioners

Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to allow us to advertise the vacant position on the Parks and Recreation Board.

Recommend to the Board of Commissioners to approve the ECO-Explorer Program for the Belville Riverwalk Park.

ITEM # 7- OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS

- a. Chairman**
- b. Vice Chairman**
- c. Staff And / Or the Commissioners**

ITEM # 8 – ADJOURNMENT

ACTION – Chairman Laura Copley adjourned the meeting.

Minutes compiled by Brenda K. Hewlett

SIGNED:

Laura Copley, Chairman

ATTEST:

Brenda K. Hewlett, Secretary