



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2023

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Present:

Joe Cranford, Chairman
Vince Matthews, Vice-Chairman
Lynn Gavin, Member
Cindy Ruggiero, Member

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Absent:

Keesha Starr, Member

Alternates Present:

None

Alternate Absent:

Richard Bourque, Alternate

Staff:

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

Staff Absent:

None

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

Chairman Joe Cranford called the July 12, 2023, Belville Parks & Recreation Board Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Chairman Joe Cranford led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ACTION – Vice Chairman Vince Matthews **MADE THE MOTION** to excuse member Keesha Starr and alternate, Richard Bourque. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 3 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION – Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the agenda. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 4– APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION – Member Lynn Gavin **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes from June 8, 2023. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 5 INTRODUCTION

Chairman Joe Cranford welcomed Cindy Ruggiero to the Parks and Recreation Board. Cindy had zoomed in the last meeting, and mentioned it was a little difficult to hear. The board welcomed Cindy, and she is happy to be aboard.

ITEM # 6- UNFINISHED BUSINESS



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2023

a. Belville Riverwalk Park Update

1. Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Bucher updated the board on the garage permit, installation of power at the fishing pier, and the tables that were added near the ice cream vendor. He discussed the Eagle Scout project that will be done by Alex Long.
2. Secretary, Brenda Hewlett, gave an update on the successful Youth Fishing Day, describing what they gave to the youth. She thanked Chairman Joe Cranford for all he did working with the National Wildlife Commission.
3. Update on Storm Recovery / Park Repair

We had heavy runoff after the latest storm. Mr. Bucher also described the maintenance being done to the trails in area where it is eroding.

ITEM # 7– NEW BUSINESS

a. Upcoming Events

1. Feast of the Pirates – Member Vince Matthews would like to help with this event.
2. Fall Festival will be held in conjunction with the Skarure Woccon International Festival. There will be other Tribes who will be attending. Ian McLeod has been the liaison with the Skarure Woccon, and described some of the activities they hope to accomplish, and coordinate with the festival activities. Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Bucher confirmed that the School of Rock, Mr. Twister and bounce houses have confirmed for the Fall Festival. We would also like to get the senior art class to do face painting (Ian McLeod will check on this), and have the fairy hair vendor. They also discussed having a bluegrass band, but they wanted \$500. This may be considered in the future.
3. WMPO will be holding the Brunswick Heritage Riverside Ride again – a 16-mile ride from Navassa to Belville. Chairman Joe Cranford will be riding and encourages everyone to be on 'Team Belville', and Vince Matthews will work with the committee. Adrienne Harrington is also working with WMPO on this event.
4. Halloween and Christmas Movies – we need to decide which movies to show.
5. Chairman Joe Cranford has initiated a senior fishing day, so residents from the senior living facilities could come and fish. It is going to be October 19th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and we will require 2 to 3 staff, water and supplies.

b. Recommendations to the Board of Commissioners

1. Town Manager Athina Williams presented a recommendation of support for the Brunswick Heritage Riverside Ride. She reminded the board of this event on September 30th, and hopes they can attend.

ACTION – Vice Chairman Vince Matthews **MADE THE MOTION** to support the Brunswick Heritage Riverside Ride. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

The group also discussed Veterans Day. Member Cindy Ruggiero has some ideas and will talk to Mayor Allen about it.

Vice Chairman Vince Matthews discussed perhaps having a mascot for the Belville Riverwalk and thought we could have a contest with Belville Elementary school. We would initiate a contest and get media coverage, budget would be relatively small \$3,000-\$12,000. The board discussed perhaps some fundraisers we may be able to do to support this ambassador of good will.' We will also be having a dragonfly pond opening, which is an event the media can cover.

c. Town Updates



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2023

Town Manager Athina Williams discussed the road widening project on NC133. This may affect our events. They are trying to do most of the work in the evenings, so as not to disrupt traffic.

ITEM # 8 - OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS

a. Chairperson

None

b. Vice-Chairman

Vince will work on the mascot contest.

c. Staff And / Or the Commissioners

None

ITEM # 9 – ADJOURNMENT

ACTION – Chairman Joe Cranford adjourned the meeting at 7:17 pm.

Minutes compiled by Brenda K. Hewlett/sn

SIGNED:

Joe Cranford, Chairman

ATTEST:

Brenda K. Hewlett, Secretary