



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2023

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Present:

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

Staff:

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

Staff Absent:

Ian McLeod, Parks and Recreation Assistant

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

Chairman Joe Cranford called the October 11, 2023, Belville Parks & Recreation Board Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

ACTION: Member Keesha Starr made a motion to excuse Ian McLeod. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.

Item # 3 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION – Member Keesha Starr MADE THE MOTION to approve the agenda. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.

Item # 4– APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION – Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews MADE THE MOTION to approve the Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes from September 13, 2023. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.

ITEM # 5- UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Belville Riverwalk Park Update

1. Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher said that he is continuing to replace rotten boards on the fishing pier, cutting vegetation and preparing for the Buddy Walk on October 14, 2023.

1. UPDATE ON STORM RECOVERY / PARK REPAIR

ITEM # 6– NEW BUSINESS

a. Upcoming Events

1. The Brunswick Heritage Ride was a success. There were 131 cyclists this year. The cyclist rode from Phoenix Park in Navassa to the Belville Riverwalk Park in Belville. The cyclists were treated to water, Gatorade and snacks. Abby Lorenzo thanked the Town of Belville for the treats. Town Manager Athia Williams spoke to Abby about the traffic.



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2. The Fall Festival was discussed, and it was an impressive event. We had 3,500-4,000 attendees. Things we need to buy for future events would be tent sides, large sign with ticket prices of games.
3. The Christmas Carnival was discussed and was suggested that we run it all day. Town Manager Athina Williams stated that a Belville resident has offered to donate 3,000 stockings to us for the Christmas event. Brenda will order small candy canes.
4. Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews would like to have a Holiday Village approach this year with Elf Outfits. Cindy Ruggiero will be Mrs. Santa Claus. Johnny Whaley will get a price on renting the train.
5. Town Manager said that the Closer Walk Church would like to have another event with us. She also said that she would like to do the gift wrapping again this year.
6. Brenda Hewlett said that we need to create a program for Veteran's Day. She asked if Mayor Allen could speak and Mayor Pro Tem Bost also. We can order the wreath and have some roses to sell.
7. Town Manager Athina Williams stated we will take part in Operation Green Light again this year.
8. Town Manager Athina Williams stated that electricity is \$15.00, and the water fee is also \$10.00. We did not charge the first four or five years. Secretary Brenda Hewlett will call around to get prices of other towns rentals.
9. Chairman Joe Cranford stated that he will have twelve people on October 19, 2023, for the Senior Fishing Day

The Town Manager thanked all in attendance for their hard work on the Fall festival. She also said that a Structural Engineer will go under the deck to see if it is structurally sound. She said that the Pre-Bid conference was held yesterday on Tuesday for the Multi-Use Path. She and the Mayor visited Westport Lofts and said how nice it is. They have a grill, pool, dog park, dog washroom and a roof top bar.

We are looking at strategic parking. There is a vacant lot next to the school and the DOT will install a traffic light at the school.

b. Discussion And/or Recommendations to the Board of Commissioners

None at present

ITEM # 8 - OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS

a. Chairperson

None

b. Vice-Chairman

None

b. Staff And / Or the Commissioners

None

ITEM # 9 – ADJOURNMENT

ACTION – Chairman Joe Cranford adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Minutes compiled by Brenda K. Hewlett



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SIGNED:

Joe Cranford, Chairman

ATTEST:

Brenda K. Hewlett, Secretary