

## **Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2014**

Mike Saylor called the meeting to order

In attendance: Mike Saylor, Mike Harris, Brad Epperley, Charlton McCoy, Brad Mecom, Tonia Winn, Jim Williamson, Cord Hall, Shane Guynn

The minutes from the last meeting were approved

No citizen comments

Brad shared the highlights from the March monthly report:

- Rental Contracts did very well with \$6,245 this month
- Attendance this month was great with 10,765 (this does not include those that went to classes)
- Adult league basketball has come to an end
- Church league and Open league volleyball is starting up with 13 teams on each league
- We had the RU softball clinic, which did well and is a great event for the children to be involved in
  - Cheer Camp and Volleyball camp coming up soon
- Community Program highlights: 30 minute abs and arms had 25 participants, P90 Rec had 21 participants, Beginning Photography did great with 20 participants
- Senior Program highlights: AARP tax aid program did great with 389 tax documents prepared. Alzheimer's vs. Dementia had 16 participants, Estate Planning had 26 participants and St Patrick's Day Bingo had 28 participants
- Youth baseball/softball sign ups have finished and we have a good number of children that will participate, we are up one team from last year
  - All baseball and softball equipment and shirts have been ordered
  - Background checks and all training/certifications are finishing up
  - Use SSCI for our background checks
    - Looking into CPS checks through Social Services
- NRV travel baseball picked trash at Depot Park, they did a great job and picked up 11 bags of trash
- Ignite Academy did a service project at Kiwanis and Depot Park. They had 50-60 people and did an amazing job putting down gravel and mulch
- Brad showed the Commission a diagram of what the new floor will look like and the color scheme
  - April 28 is when the process will start
- Council approved the new lights to be put up in the gym. It will be a very quick turn around, but so worth all the work in the end

- Budget amount \$62,000. Lights were under \$28,000, installation under \$9,000 with a total of \$37,000. Saved \$25,000!
    - Payback will be much sooner than expected, cutting off at least a year
    - They will start installation of the 50 lights in the next few days
- Story Walk Open House will be April 16
  - We did this at College Street Park in partnership with the library
  - Pages of the book at each post along with a physical activity for the children to do
- Unfortunately there will be no Buddy Camp this year. We need more time to prepare everything so that it is done right. This is on the top priority for next summer. Also will try again next year with the Challenger program
- Tara Grant reached out and Brad is going to talk to the school and this Friday all the Recreation Staff will be wearing college attire in conjunction with the schools for Commit to Graduate (C2G)
- Cord Hall stated that Council wants the Commission to go forward with the run that will commemorate the opening of the trail bridge
  - Brad talked to the Commission about working in partnership with Christiansburg High School Athletics
    - Shane Guynn talked with the Commission about what all is needed to run a race, he has done this in the past and knows the running community
  - Round table discussion about the theme of the race. Some attention grabbing ideas were: Huckleberry Hustle, Days of Blaze, Path Most Traveled, Bridging the Community, could tie the race into the Halloween, Veterans Day, or the Wilderness Trail Festival
- The Council also has been talking about the development of the Wilson Property
  - The Commission talked about having cultural opportunities need to be added first, like a natural outdoor amphitheater
    - Possibly towards the back corner of the property
    - Also looking into the possibility of a portable amphitheater (along with the permanent one) this could be used for the 5k race, 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities, Easter Egg Hunt, and other town events
  - Then move to developing more of the property
  - Brad Mecom addressed the Commission and gave a handout of a draft for the Wilson Property
    - 4 Phase approach
      - Transportation
      - Commercial component
      - Storm water management
      - Park development
    - This also put the some of the survey results in a graph form
    - 4 sections to the future park

- Parks and facilities
- Open space activities
- Marketing and communication
- Operations
- Full draft of plan should be finalized in the next 2 weeks
  - There will be a public meeting in May and presentation to the Council in June
- Some of the items people were asking for in the surveys were: Trails (paved or concrete) for connectivity, cultural aspects (music venue and town events), dog park, and picnic shelters were a few of the top leaders
- From the surveys the top five reasons people visit our parks
  - Visit playgrounds
  - Sports
  - Exercise
  - Relaxation
  - Town events
- There were 619 responses and they addressed athletic and aesthetics for the community

Next meeting scheduled for May 5, 2014