

## **Meeting Minutes for August 5, 2013**

Diane Fenton called the meeting to order

In attendance: Tonia Winn, Mary Critzer, Diane Fenton, Mike Saylors, Mike Barber, Mike Harris, Logan Atkins, Chuck Muncy, Brad Epperley, Charlton McCoy, Special Guests-Kevin Byrd and Brad Meccum (NRV Planning Commission)

The minutes from the last meeting were approved

Brad shared the highlights from the July monthly report:

### **Senior Programs:**

\*Blood Drive (35 participants)

\*Co-sponsored Ice Cream Social with Radford (60 participants)

\*New VIN Etching Anti-Theft Program-working with the police department to offer this free program to etch VIN numbers into citizen's vehicle to help prevent theft

\*Triad Counsel Senior Lock Box Program has 20 participants. Co-sponsored Program with the police department where senior citizens have a lock box system outside their home where the police can gain entry into the house in case of an emergency.

### **Depot Park:**

\*Engineers are staking the remainder of trail. Plan on finishing loop trail towards the end of August with gravel base

\*Getting bids to pave trail and put fence at creek bank

\*New Playground Equipment has helped with the usage of this park

### **Special Events: 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration**

\*We had different activities this year: casting competition, limbo, water balloons, and corn hole

\*Two bands played this year (idea for next year is to make a dance area near the stage)

\*Thinking about doing something different next year for 4<sup>th</sup> of July-possibly a downtown festival and still have fireworks that night. We may try to have a build your own CO2 car race, similar to the idea of the pinewood derby.

### **Youth Athletics:**

\*No girls' softball all-stars this year-looking at ways to make this better for next year

\*Boys All Star (9-10) and (11-12) both won District Tournament, Played in State Championship and both teams were State Runner-ups

\*Football and Cheerleading are now in the process of getting started

\*Mike GoForth is coming back this year to talk about the helmet study and concussion seminar. This seminar is mandatory for all coaches. The players and parents are invited as well. We had over 100 people attend this seminar last year.

\*Football camp this year is August 12-15<sup>th</sup>

**Adult Athletics:**

\*Church Volleyball (16 teams), Open Volleyball (13 teams), Open Softball (6 teams), Church Softball (9 teams)

\*Outdoor sports were a challenge this year due to lightning and weather complications however we were able to make the best of the weather situations.

**Clinics:**

\*Cheerleading camp-38 participants

\*Shawn Good (CHS Basketball Camp)-close to 70 participants

\*Doug Day Basketball Camp-close to 60 participants

\*Volleyball camp coming up in the near future

\*Want to have a baseball/softball camp next year with the high school coaches.

\*Want to have camps that are affordable for kids to come and participate. We want to give more kids the opportunity to be involved

**Community:**

\*Cooking Merit Badge class-10 kids, 30 minute abs and arms-22 adults

\*Offered a free Zumba Sculpt demo (22 adults attended) to see if this would be something people would be interested in

\*P90 rec and Zumba toning continue to be very popular classes

\*Talked to Terry Caldwell, Director of Aquatic Center, about having a camp and being able to go to the Aquatic Center for a while to break up the day. This could be a great marketing item for the Parks and Recreation Department along with the Aquatic Center.

**USSSA World Series:**

\* 11U 12 U USSSA World Series hosted in July there were a total of 17 teams. Furthest team was from Brooklyn, NY.

\*USSSA Competitive Direct Spending for out of town (officials, teams and umpires) figured \$125 a day

\*In town (league officials, umpires and teams) \$20 a day (does not include daily pass spectators)

\*Came up with total of \$286,995 of direct economic impact for what we can account for

\*Daily Average USSSA \$57,399

\*Hotel rooms ended up having 669 hotel rooms accounted for USSSA (134 per night within the area)

\*Opening Ceremonies for USSSA tournament was held at the Christiansburg Middle School Amphitheater, a very nice area that we will look into for future events. Bill McChain was able to be the Master of Ceremonies for the opening ceremony and Mike Goforth was the guest speaker.

\*USSSA State Director was very impressed with the Christiansburg community and how the tournament was organized and operated. He was planning on spreading age groups for the tournament throughout Virginia next year but now wants to bring ages 9-13 here next year due to the excellence that was provided.

\*Mike Barber stated that he talked with parents at the championship game and they were very impressed that our Rescue Squad was at all of the games. Brad said all of the departments in Christiansburg working together are what makes this all possible.

\*Letters were shared from different teams on how impressed and pleased they were with the World Series here in Christiansburg

\*Brad informed the commission that Brad Foster was no longer a town resident and therefore would no longer be serving on the commission. He wanted to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve his community

#### **NRV Planning Commission:**

\*Will be spending the next 10-12 months exploring issues with the community and getting ideas about what they want to see happening with recreation and using this information to compile a Master Plan

\*Question posed to the commission what they would like the town to be known for in the future, some suggestions included: quality programs, well-rounded comprehensive programs (including seniors), opportunities for everyone, recreation as not always competitive but social environment that can be used for-(concerts, weddings, family reunions, movies on the lawn), Huckleberry trail (bike riding), Places to walk, not just trails (sidewalks), Softball Sports Complex, Dog Park, festivals(like Steppin' Out in Blacksburg), reaching as many people as possible, more multipurpose facilities and trendsetters

\*Question posed how do we get to this point: Marketing the events (social media-Twitter and Facebook), Program Brochures, Getting information out to the right places, Signature Park (surrounded by other facilities to brand your community), Maximize usage of resources by partnering with persons around the area (i.e. Virginia Tech, Radford), Work with other departments, Survey the citizens, maintain what we are currently doing while continuing to improve.

\*NRV planning commission asked the recreation commission to think about projects that are going to get you to where you want to be for the next meeting