

Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2016

Diane Fenton called the Recreation Commission meeting to order and welcomed everyone

In Attendance: Mary Critzer, Doris Oliver, Jim Williamson, Brad Epperley, Charlton McCoy, Mike Saylor, Mike Harris, Diane Fenton

Last month's minutes approved

Diane Fenton turned the meeting over to Brad Epperley

Brad mentioned some of things that have been going on in the Recreation Department. We have been faced with illness and death within the department. It's been a tough time for us here at the Recreation Department this past month but everybody has sort of joined forces and jumped in to do the best that we possibly can. This is a great group of people and it was very obvious to Brad that when people are in trouble or in need our folks will step up and take care of each other. That makes Brad's job as a director very easy.

At the Recreation Center for the month of March, keep in mind we were shut down for 3 days for the Home Expo. But we were still able to get attendance of 10,522. The Home Expo was this past month, had a great turn out easily over a thousands of people and vendors. They did some different things this year; they had cooking classes and cooking demonstration. The Home Expo is very important to us and we hope to keep that here and keep it going. Charlton ran the Easter egg hunt, it turned out well. The weather was beautiful for us and it was a great crowd, we have 200 down for participants but it could easily been more than that. We had 6000 eggs that were spread out and not one was left. It was a free event and if anyone wants to take pictures with the Bunny it was a \$1. We had 66 participants do that, something we did different this year was emailing the pictures to the parents. Community Programs we have been rather busy with those. Our p90 had 25 participants in that, Zumba had 26 participants; our yoga's have done really well as well. Beginner yoga had 26 participants and lunchtime yoga 17 participants having some great numbers in those. Virginia Firearm Safety we had 37 participants take part of that class. In our Seniors and Special Populations bingo was a pretty big hit for us, Wheel of Fortune Bingo we had 19 participants, St Patrick's Day bingo we had 28. One of the events they really enjoy was the Lima Bean Auction. Special Populations wise were working a little bit closer with IDA. We have listed on here about the walking club and bowling. Bowling takes place at the NRV Superbowl but we also started cheerleading that has continued to grow. We have had close to 19 participants and that is starting to grow. Youth Sports, basketball is over with. We are into baseball/softball practices; all the teams have been selected. We are participating again with Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Radford, Pulaski, Patrick County, and Giles County. The youth scheduling meeting for baseball and softball will take place on April 11th and they will probably start games the end of April. The softball uniforms will have sleeves this year, so they can wear them to school. Adult Sports, we had a little issue with adult basketball. It was in an overtime situation, the supervisor that night used youth overtime rules with time instead of adult. We regrouped the next day, and replayed that overtime. Adult basketball is complete; the Slowbreak League champions were Jack's Team. Jack's Team is back to back undefeated champions. Fastbreak League champions were Classic Cleaning and Painting. We also started adult volleyball during this process as well. A league for Church league has 9 teams and the B league has 5 teams. They are all playing and everything seems to be going well. Open League we have 12 teams, we started those games on March 24th. Kudos to Charlton for getting those schedules out to those teams. We split everything up between our departments. Brian handled the officials and scorekeepers, Chuck handled the concerns and question, and Charlton handled the schedules. Athletic Special Events, Radford

University Baseball Clinic this was the day before Nick became ill. We had 38 participants for that clinic. Another big event for us was Dicks Sporting Good day, we had over 300 coupons redeem that day. This was by the biggest day we have ever had with them. Upcoming events, on Monday April 11th at Harkrader Sports Complex we will have a pitch hit & run competition. Charlton is going to take over and run that for us. We are still taking register for adult softball; registration closes Friday, April 8th. Outdoor Sports Facilities and Parks we are getting into the tournament season. We had one tournament on March 12th there was 18 teams that participated in that. We had one this past weekend March 26th-27th there were 24 teams. One thing Brad mentioned was we have started a partnership with Special Olympics and we are going to be working with them very closely. They are going to be practicing at Harkrader Sports Complex. Brad received a phone call from one of the athletes thanking him for allowing their program to be able to use Harkrader and they have never been on a field as beautiful as that. Charlton is also working with Special Olympics in the Recreation Center as well. They have a volleyball group that is going to the nationals and we are working with them on court availability. Other thing Brad mentioned, talk to our mowing contractor to work out a deal about clean mulch in all of our parks. It was a low price of \$800. They are removing the old out and putting new in. B&T Landscaping has had the mowing contact for 2 years now. They mow the recreation center, parks, and town hall. We still mow the athletic fields. We have the pinwheels and poster for Prevention of Child Abuse on the Cambria St side of the building.

Bikeway Walkway Committee meeting was Friday, April 1st. They discussed heavily on sponsorships possibilities through the bikeway walkways. Brad gave them a list of items that he felt would increase the well-being of the Huckleberry Trail. Some of those items are water station throughout, the emergency call towers, a couple different shelters and other things along those lines. The Bikeway Walkway Committee are going to reach out to businesses on possibly sponsoring these items. As we continue to grow our list will get bigger. There is a Grad student that is doing a survey on the Walkability dealing with things such as sidewalks, trails, and if things are within walking distance. This is an online survey. Mike Saylor bought up the concern about where he sees people walking there are no sidewalks. That is one of the things that the Bikeway Walkway Committee has really worked on and there trying to get certain things. They have a list of things based on priorities. Roanoke Street is a priority on that list, there talking about condensing it down with less lanes of traffic. Cambria is also a priority. When we did our Master Plan trails, walkways, bikeways were the top things people talked about. A few things are that coming up is April 18th 3-7pm at Christiansburg Fire Department we are working with State Police on Vin Etching. Tuesday, April 19th we are having the Shred a Thon here at the Recreation Center 3-6pm, we partner with Traid, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery Parks and Recreation Department, and Christiansburg Police Department. We are starting our fitness walk back this Wednesday, April 6 12-12:50pm. This Wednesday we are starting here at the Recreation Center and walking the Huckleberry Trail and back. It will be different places throughout the town.

Brad thanked the Recreation Commission for attending the work session last month. Mike Harris spoke up and said he has heard great comments and good interest in the Truman Wilson Property.

Meeting adjourned. Next Recreation Commission meeting will be May 2, 2016.