

Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2017

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

In Attendance: Tonia Winn, John Neel, Robin Boyd, Richard Polikoff, Charlton McCoy, Nicole Diloia, Mike Saylor, Diane Fenton

Last month's minutes were approved.

Diane Fenton turned the meeting over to Charlton McCoy.

- Assistant Directors Report:
- January's attendance was 12,292, which is 2,000 more than we had last year.
- In our Community Programs: we had 22 participants in 30 minutes Abs and Arms, P90 had 18 participants, and Beginning Evening Yoga was full this session with 25 participants. Some new programs we are offering are a Morning Tabata and Evening Tabata, we have 10 participants in Morning and 16 participants in the Evening. Last month we attended the Virginia Tech Health Fair. Over 1,000 participants came out for that event, this allowed us to market and distribute our program/event information to the participants.
- In our Senior Programs: Winter Birding Program had 26 participants. AARP Tax Aide has started for us, appointments are completely booked out until the second week in March. This is a tax aide program that we offer to anyone in the community, the only exception is that we don't allow businesses.
- This past Saturday, February 4 we had the Radford University Softball Clinic. We had 35 participants show up for that in our indoor batting cage facility. The morning started out cool but by midafternoon it turned out to be great weather for it. John Neel mentions that they split the campers up, they were outside doing grounder and fly ball drills. This a free camp that is open to anyone, the only restriction is age.
- In our Outdoor Facilities: meetings have been completed with the selection of tournament dates for the upcoming spring/summer. The information about the World Series will be out at a later date, we are waiting on the conclusion of some contract discussions with different areas before it's all finalized. Ball field repairs have begun, the concrete, the old slabs and dugouts have been removed at Falling Branch. They are making the dugouts there a little bit wider, and cutting back in to the hill and also redoing the backstop to make it safer. This will also help with some drainage issues.
- In our Adult Athletics: we have 10 teams in our Fast Break League and 8 teams in our Slow Break League.
- In our Youth Athletics: Mite and Pee Wee Leagues have completed their season. The Minor, Major, and Senior Leagues are about half through their season. Registration started January 3 through March 3 for Youth Baseball and Softball.
- Student Representative Report:
- The Christiansburg High School Wrestling Team did very well at the event this past weekend. The new football coach has been named (Alex Wilkins), he was assistant coach for Glenvar.
- Charlton mentions that for the AAU Basketball Tournament there were 50 teams that participated in January tournament, 3 states Virginia, North Carolina, and West Virginia. We have two tournaments this month, February 11 and February 25. On Friday, February 3 we formally opened the

Huckleberry South Trail. We have received some interest in the trail sponsorship program. You can access the information on our website, the sponsorships are for items needed on the trail such as benches, call towers, etc.

- In the past couple of weeks we have had a couple of issues with some teenagers in the table area near the doors. Our staff is addressing the issues, now with that area instead of being a hangout area, it is a quiet area. It will be treated as if it is a library, people can be on their computers, read books, and work on homework. There will be no food and drinks allowed in the area as well. We were running into the issue of pizza being thrown on the floors and wiped on the walls. This issue arises when all four courts are going, and they don't have much more to do here. This time of the year we are limited because of basketball, classes, racquetball, basically everything is booked up. We have been bouncing around some ideas. We are working with the Police Department with adding some more surveillance capabilities. We have even thrown ideas out of having a game room, going to get some electronics for when we have four courts going and opening the game room. Charlton told commission that if they had any ideas to these issues to please let himself or Brad Epperley know, but just remember we are limited on space. Diane Fenton mentions that some of the problem may be eliminated now because the Middle School no longer allows kids to ride to the High School to walk to the Recreation Center. This is the only place some kids have to go, and we do not want take that away from them. But we can't allow them to misbehave, we are also documenting. If we have to tell them to stop horse playing we are not going to kick them out the first time but we will document and if they get in to trouble multiple times, we may consider suspending membership privileges. Robin Boyd asked if it was a little group or large group of kids, it's a group of about 15 kids. Nothing is set in stone, but we are looking for them to have another outlet of things to do when the courts are full. The last thing that we want is tell someone that they can't come to the Recreation Center. Richard Polikoff mentioned about getting board games to have at the front desk for them to check out since they are cheaper. Diane Fenton mentions that she would rather them to be here than somewhere else getting into trouble but on the other hand we have to make sure that we have the man power for when its busy here so that we have people here to supervise those kids to alleviate property damage and bullying. Charlton said, we created another shift 2-5:30 p.m. which is a part timer that supervises the gym. We know this isn't the solution to all the problems but we are still working on it. Tonia Winn asked if they came with backpacks, so you could offer tutoring. We have discussed this, but Charlton doesn't think that will be a good option because most of the kids would not be energetic for tutoring because they have been in school all day. Mike Saylor mentions he thinks it's a good thing we have a place for people to come but the one thing we do not want to get into is being an after school daycare.
- A few years before Brad got here, Art Price was the Director, we use to turn the radio on when the staff got here and didn't turn it off till they left at night in the weight and cardio room. A gentleman and his wife went to several members of council and was concerned about the music being played all the time because it was forcing them to listen to something they didn't want to listen to. So directives came to provide a quiet time solution which is from 8-9:30 a.m. This is any day that we are open during this time frame including Saturdays. We recently opened the suggestion box and there were a number of suggestions to abolish quiet time and wanting the music to be played. We are asking Recreation Commission any valuable solutions to reach both groups. Most of the citizens working out at this time is of the older age group. Recreation Commission suggested to do a poll about either you want quiet time or music. Charlton is willing to also reach out to other Recreation Centers and other Fitness Centers to see what their policy is about music being played. Robin Boyd suggested to

put a box out and let people give their suggestions instead of having people going around signing petitions. Diane Fenton mentions before a decision is made we could do a box for 2 weeks to a month but on that paper they need to put their name on it so the same person isn't sticking it in there a bunch of times. Mike Saylor mentions what is going to happen, is these people are going to go to Town Council like they did before. But as Richard Polikoff mentions having that poll will help when and if it is brought up to Town Council. Diane Fenton mentions the two options that Commission needs to decide on, one being having the poll and Charlton checking with other Fitness Centers or two being Charlton just check with other Fitness Centers. The first option was the choice of the commission. Mike Saylor mentions that you can't cater to just one or two people and that quiet time needs to be eliminated if that is the case. Everyone is in an agreement of doing the poll for two weeks and checking other Fitness Centers. Only one ballot per person during those two weeks.

- Meeting Adjourned, next meeting Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6 p.m.