

Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2019

- Diane Fenton called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- In Attendance: Richard Polikoff, Matthew Davidson, Robin Boyd, Jim Williamson, Cord Hall, Brad Epperley, Charlton McCoy, John Neel, Mike Saylor, Harry Collins, Diane Fenton
- Minutes from December were approved.
- No citizen comments
- Directors Report: Active memberships for the month of December was 5,798 and attendance is 6,351. There were a lot of events held at the recreation center in December. We had the Lions Club Craft Fair that had thousands of guests that attended. We also did the Calls from the North Pole. We had 32 calls, this program continues to grow over the years. The Christmas Parade went great and was heavily attended by the community. We had 175 parade entries this year. Christmas on Market was being held at the same time. One thing Brad plans to add to his budget is a sound system for downtown Christiansburg. He believes it could help with safety concerns. Mike Saylor mentions that he thought Monday was a better day than the Friday to have the parade. He thought more people showed up.
- Athletic Special Events and Outdoor Facilities: We have confirmed plans to have an Archery Clinic and RU Baseball Clinic in the spring. We have finalized our tournament dates, in the past we have worked with the City of Radford as well as Pulaski. Pulaski has decided to pull out and they are going to be on their own. They will be working with the Top Gun Organization. We will be working with USSSA on baseball and NSA on softball. The City of Radford is on board with us and we have spoken to Virginia Tech and Radford University as well. The RU Softball team will be hosting a softball clinic here at the recreation center.
- Outdoor Facilities: We have been working on removing all of the snow and ice. We have had very little damage to the parks and fields. The Eagle Scout project is done and we are waiting on better weather to install the concrete.
- Community Programs: Toddler time is doing well with seven children and parents. Toning and Conditioning has 18 participants, and Tabata has 17 participants. Last year we began offering free demo classes during the holidays for people to try out different classes. It is hard to have regular session classes with people traveling out of town. The dog obedience classes are doing very well again and are making good use of the space at the May Flower building.
- Senior & Special Population Programs: We had the Holiday High Tea trip that had 29 participants attend, this is always a popular trip. The trip travels to the Palisades to drink tea. We had a Christmas Bingo program with a great turnout. Pet Smart donated 160 stuffed animals to the Parks and Recreation Department. Some of the staff went to English Meadows and Commonwealth Senior Living to hand out the stuffed animals. Each resident got an animal and our staff visited with them as well. We had 148 participants attend the IDA Christmas Dance and we had our Christmas Luncheon with 75 participants.
- Youth Athletics: Our basketball season has started. We have a total of 34 teams. This is more participants than we had last year. Chuck Muncy and Angie Bowles have done a great job with the athletes.
- Adult Athletics: Church League A, B, and Open League have finished up their Volleyball season and are starting their tournament. Adult Fast Break Basketball will be starting soon and it has eight teams. We are going to do a Slowbreak Basketball League after the Fastbreak League. We have some players that play both Fastbreak and Slowbreak. We will have a High School League for the first time this year in a long time. Cord Hall asked about a Church League Basketball League. Mike Saylor mentions that he spoke with Brian and he had two teams that have shown interest.
- Old Business: The deadline for the PPEA is January 22. We are expecting to have competing bids for that. At that point it will go to Town Council and they will look at it.
- New Business: At Kiwanis Park, the land beside the big field that goes down toward Roanoke Street was owned by Mr. Poff. The Kiwanis Club owns the land now. Joel Sutphin has gone through and cleared that property out. We are in the process of working with Gay and Neel to come up with a Master Plan for that area. There are talks of doing a stream restoration at Kiwanis Park. This would get the stream back in the normal channel of the creek.
 - We have three interns that will be working with our department this spring, they are all from Radford University.
 - We are talking about doing a new program called Nerf Battle. This program will be set up like capture the flag. We would start with younger age groups to get the ground rules set and then add more age groups. This program would be held at the May Flower Building. The recreation commission voted to start this program.
 - Robin Boyd mentions that the jamboree will be March 9th and that would be good time for the bench dedication for Ashlyn Poole.
- Student Report: Winter conditioning starts this week for sports at the high school.
- Meeting adjourned, next meeting Monday, February 4.