

Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2020

- Diane Fenton called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- In Attendance: Reba Smart, Robin Boyd, Jim Williamson, Cord Hall, Brad Epperley, Charlton McCoy, Kathy Meadows, Kendall Lewis, Diane Fenton, John Neel, Mike Saylor
- Minutes from December were approved.
- No Citizens Comment
- Directors Report: Attendance for December was 6,479, that does not include our programs and sporting events. December was a busy month for our department; we had the Lion's Club Craft Fair that had 141 booths with a huge crowd. The calls from the North Pole increases every year with the number of calls children receive from Santa. This is the second year we have had to move to the Christmas Parade to the inclement weather date. We ended up having 65 parade entries, with 175 in the lineup. Along with the parade, we did Christmas at the Market and it turned out to be a good night for the market. Our department handles 90% of the event but we couldn't do it without Public Works' help with the barricades and sand bags and the Police Department for blocking the road ways. They estimated about six thousand spectators for the parade this year. We did our first ever Winter Wonderland that was originally supposed to take place on Hickok Street but had to be moved inside to the Recreation Center because of the weather. We had reindeer games and every kid that participated got a free card to the Trampoline Park or NRV Super Bowl, no one went home empty handed that night. We had arts and craft area and Mrs. Claus's Kitchen that gave away free hot chocolate, cider and cookies. Because we couldn't do the parade that Friday night, we opened it up to the vendors that were supposed to be at the market to participate at Winter Wonderland. We had seven or eight vendors to set up that night. We also did pictures with Santa and the Christiansburg Middle School choir sang Christmas Carols. Overall this was an amazing event with about 1500 participants.
 - Community Programs: In December, we do classes a little different; we do mini sessions to give participants a chance to a workout around the holidays instead of not having any classes at all. The Core Balance and Ripped mini session were our most attended classes.
 - Senior Programs: We took a group to the Wohlfahrt Christmas Show that had 16 participants. We did a Super Bingo that had 38 participants. One of the most rewarding things we have done the past couple of years is go to local nursing homes and deliver stuff animals to each resident. We worked with the local Petsmart and they donate the stuffed animals that we gave out. We have also painted pumpkins with them and decorated Valentine's Day cards for them in the past. It is good to be able to give back to our community. We also had the IDA Christmas Dance that had 267 participants.
 - Adult Athletics: We have finished our Church and Co-Ed Open Volleyball Leagues. We are in the process of getting organizational meetings set up for Fastbreak and Slow break Basketball. It looks like we will have enough for our High School League again this year.
 - Athletic Special Events: We worked again with Dicks Sport Goods and was able to redeem 278 coupons. This is a great partnership; we get seasonal items in return. We did host our first AAU Tournament of the year that had 48 teams. This

tournament was held as a fundraiser to provide toys for kids in our area. The Nerf Challenge had 26 participants and the event went very well. This tournament was held at the Mayflower Building. Brian Lambert is working with Walmart to help sponsor an E-games tournament to reach out to the teenagers. We are also working with RU Baseball/Softball to set up clinics.

- Youth Athletics: Youth Basketball programs have went well this year and increased in the number of participants. This year we have 306 participants and 39 teams.
- Old Business: Starting January 21 our department will have two interns, one from Virginia Tech and one from Radford University. Brad brought up our Inclement Weather Policy and Commission thinks our policy works the way it is. We have started the budget process and have met with supervisor. This year we are hosting the Rockstar Gymnastic Meet at our facility. We will be shut down Friday, January 17 through Monday, January 20 but this is a holiday weekend. This event will have 1800 participants from many different states. We will also be doing another Gymnastics Meet May 1 – 3. We are hosting two AAU Tournament in February, with those tournaments, just the courts and track shut down. There is a PPEA Park Committee Planning Meeting on January 16. The hope is that they would be close to providing us with 35% of the actual design. We are working on a video that we will release to the public to view to see what the park amenities are. Brad is meeting with the representatives of the playground. They help with ways for communities raise money through sponsorships for parks that are designed to be all-inclusive. We have gotten everything squared away with the new bikes for the Bikeshare Program and the contract has been signed. It will take about 90-120 days for the bikes to arrive; there will be 150 e-assist bikes. We will add more hubs in Christiansburg.
- Student Report: They have started work on the field house at the high school. They have cut the trees down in front of the high school for the trail expansion.
- Meeting adjourned, next month Monday, February 3, 2020.