

## **MINUTES FROM THE CHRISTIANSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING OF MONDAY, MAY 7, 2012.**

Brad Epperley called meeting to order and took roll call.

Minutes from the last Recreation Commission meeting approved.

No citizen comments.

Brad Epperley introduced Barrie Tabor from Kids Emporium in Lake Norman, NC ([www.kidsale.com](http://www.kidsale.com)). She is interested in renting a court for a community consignment sale for children's products. It would be a four day rental for one court, which would be close to a \$1000 rental. Along with the rental fee she would be paying, she would also donate some of the proceeds from the sale to a scholarship fund to help under privileged children play recreation league sports. Brad brought this before the Commission to get their thoughts on it. He also did some checking around and up towards Northern Virginia this is very popular and has grown tremendously. The consignment would be a rental; it would not affect normal use of the facility. There would be positives and negatives for this type of rental. The positives would include reaching out to the community, business license (provisional license), sales tax, and the recreation center would get more traffic which could mean more memberships. One of the negatives would be that we wouldn't want to start doing yard sales in the Recreation Center.

There is now a vacancy on the Recreation Commission due to the passing of Mr. Walter Price. Brad asked the Commission if anyone had any ideas on appointing someone. There was a round table discussion on what everyone thought the Commission needed in a new member. There were thoughts on finding someone in a younger age range (20-30's), someone with marketing experience, and someone that can attend most of the meetings. Brad said that he would put the information out that there is a vacancy on the Commission.

Brad Epperley brought four new logo choices before the Commission. He doesn't want to take away the old logo but incorporate something new with the new era for the Recreation Department. The logo the Recreation Center staff likes incorporates the Christiansburg Athletic "C" combined with the current mountain logo. This logo brings both the Recreation Department and Christiansburg Athletics together but it is still very close to the same so that we would be able to still use things that have the older logo on them (i.e.-rugs in the lobby).

Brad passed around an updated Parks and Recreation facilities map for everyone to see.

Brad went over April's Progress Report.

The P90rec Community Class along with the Zumba class has really taken off and is booming. Also the dog obedience classes are doing really well. However, the next class though will not be taking place at the Armory as it normally does because they are doing some renovations. The classes are now going to be taking place in one of the bays located behind the Recreation Center. It was also mentioned we may need to look at putting a dog park in Christiansburg. The other area Recreation Centers are moving in this direction and it would be something our citizens would benefit from.

In thirteen Senior Aerobics sessions there have been 286 participants. Senior basketball night has been doing really well also. The AARP tax aide services helped 908 people with their taxes with the average income being \$30,000. There was \$876,000 in tax refunds and they saved \$135,000 in fees they would have had to pay to have their taxes completed. This is an excellent program that is provided for our citizens. There was also a great

showing of Christiansburg Seniors at the Senior Olympics that was held in Blacksburg this year. Next year the Senior Olympics will be held at the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

The Special Populations spring dance had 275 participants. Brad also discussed getting a Challengers program here in Christiansburg for the Special Populations.

The Easter Egg Hunt this year had a great turnout. It was one dollar per child to participate. For future Easter Egg Hunts, Brad would like to look into sponsorships so that the program would not have to cost the participants anything because some families may not have a dollar for their child to participate.

Adult Athletic Church Volleyball has 17 teams this season and Coed Volleyball has 15 teams. Open League Softball has just started with 7 teams.

Youth Sports baseball and softball is currently going on. The 13-14 year old boys baseball league has 22 boys participating. The 13-14 year old girls are going to combine teams with Blacksburg so that there will be enough players for a team. There was an umpire clinic for the NRV and Christiansburg had four umpires there, which was the most out of the area. Football and Cheerleading sign-ups are getting ready to start in June and we are looking into getting yard signs to let people know that sign-ups have started. This will be a great way to get the word out and to reach out to people.

The fields are looking really good! Chuck has been having lots of tournaments. One of the tournaments has 32 teams playing. With just this tournament there were 153 hotel rooms and 106 of those were in Christiansburg. Brad and Chuck are also working on a new economic impact sheet.

Brad reported on a few negative and positive items that happened at the Recreation Center this month. The negative items were that we had a lady that could not register for a class between the hours of 8am-5pm because she was working during that time. She did not want to register online because Activenet charges a convenience fee and she was unable to put her registration in the drop box because she wanted to pay with a credit card. The fix to the situation for her was to let her register at the front desk after the office had closed. The front desk staff will now get training on how to take registrations so that others can register with credit card after the office is closed. This will help accommodate people and make things easier for them. The other negative item was that a senior citizen asked for a senior only weight room, at this time this is not a feasible option for us. The positive items were that Joe Oley received a letter of gratitude from a patron that he helped change her tire. He went above and beyond his duties to help her. Also Kiwanis Club helped a 13-14 year old boy play baseball by giving him a scholarship to pay his registration fee. This meant a lot to the family of this child. Another positive thing that happened this month after a little girl fell off the playground equipment at Harkrader, Chuck called 911 for her and her family. He then stayed with the little girl while waiting for the ambulance to get there and kept her calm. Chuck then went to the hospital to check on the little girl. He went above and beyond his duties by doing this and it meant a lot to the family.

Brad and Chuck gave an update of the new weather system (DTN); they reported this was a great system! Chuck stated that it was wonderful because it was black and white; there is no gray area with this system. Chuck went on to say that he is developing a written weather/lightening policy that will go in the handbook.

Next month's meeting will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012.

Members Present: Doris Oliver  
Mary Critzer  
Mike Saylor

Jim Williamson

Mike Barber

Mike Harris

Chuck Muncy, Supervisor of Outdoor Facilities and Parks

Brad Epperley, Director of Parks and Recreation