

MINUTES FROM THE CHRISTIANSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING OF MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012.

Diane Fenton called meeting to order and took roll call.

Minutes from the last Recreation Commission meeting approved.

No citizen comments.

Diane Fenton turned the meeting over to Brad Epperley.

Brad went over May's Progress Report.

The Total Body and Jazzercise Community Programs have had a lot of attendance. With the Towns weight challenge the recreation center staff lost a total of 116.3 pounds!! Brad had a meeting with a representative from "Body Pump", she was interested in doing some classes and he directed her to Pam Peyton, Supervisor of Community Recreation. She brought up the point of having bikes to be able to do spinning classes, which is something that Brad is interested in maybe doing in the future. These are very popular classes in the community. Maybe in the future the room at the front desk where some old files are currently kept could be turned into a bike room. Mary Critzer asked if the recreation department has ever considered having Saturday classes...Brad was not sure, but will definitely check with Pam Peyton about that. Tech Sports Plex (TSP) has contacted the recreation center and they would like the chance to compliment us and work with the recreation department. This would be a great opportunity for marketing.

The Senior Aerobics classes have a lot of attendance, about 30 people per class. Senior Motions is also doing really well. Gospel Singing in 4 sessions has had over 50 people in attendance. For the Shred-A-Thon in May there was also a lot of attendance. We had some very nice compliments about the program and there was 7,187 pounds shredded on that day. The Senior Care Fair had 56 vendors and at least 244 in attendance (that is how many bags were handed out; there could have been people that didn't take a bag). Next year there may be a regional Senior Care Fair that will have a guest speaker. Also in May there was the Mother's/Father's Day Luncheon that had a very nice turnout. This is a great program that we offer our senior population.

Adult Volleyball is going great and on schedule because they have not had the weather to contend with. Softball, both adult and youth, are struggling with the schedule because we have had a rough spring with the weather. The new lightning system is working well. There have been a lot of questions about it and everyone seems to understand it better. Nick Yopp, Supervisor of Adult Athletics and Athletic Special Events, tried to have a Girls Softball Camp with Virginia Tech but not enough participants registered for it. Brad and Nick have been talking about doing some other camps and getting the High School coaches involved in the camps and in the recreation department. These camps would be throughout the summer to keep kids involved. The coaches would need to be paid, but we would try to offer these camps at no cost for the children. Mike Barber stated that he liked the thought of camps like this; it would be a great program that would see a high number of children. All of the players and coaches votes are in for all stars and the tryouts are: AAA June 18-19, Ozone June 18, Girls Angels (do not know if we will have enough girls though) and Ponytails also June 18. Football inventory on equipment is going well and everything is in good shape. This year for football we will be having reversible jerseys and pants with pads already in them; this will save the recreation department money by doing this.

There have been a lot of tournaments going on at our Outdoor Sports Facilities and Parks. There has been a lot of good cooperation between many of the area recreation departments for some of these tournaments. For the Nation Summer State Tournament there were over 50 teams and 187 hotels rooms were used in Christiansburg.

Brad reported on finding someone that may be a good fit for the vacancy on the recreation commission. Brad gave everyone a copy of Joey Beeler's resume to look over. Brad worked with him at Radford University and he lives in the Town of Christiansburg and has two children. On his resume he has a lot of what the commission is looking for, plenty of marketing and athletics. Everyone was in agreement to move forward with getting him on the commission. The commission also needs to look at a student replacement for Morgan Fenton, because she graduated in June. Everyone also showed interest in getting together an attendance policy for being on the recreation commission.

The new policy change of age of children allowed to be left at recreation center without adult supervision is going before Town Council for approval. We researched the age allowed in area recreation centers, recreation centers in Virginia, and some outside of the state and the average age was 10.1 years old. We are proposing the age for Christiansburg Recreation Center to be 11 years old instead of the current age of 8. Also we are adding that any child under 16 in the building 30 minutes prior to closing will be asked to contact their parent/guardian and to sit in the lobby until they arrive. If the child cannot reach the parent/guardian 15 minutes prior to closing then a staff member will try to contact the parent/guardian. If they cannot be reached at closing then the staff member will contact Christiansburg Police Department and at that time the child will be in custody of Christiansburg Police. They then will also try to get into contact with the parent/guardian. If the Police Department cannot get in contact with them they will turn the child over to Social Services. Hasn't been an issue but with a policy in place everyone will know what to expect.

Charlton McCoy informed the commission about a gentleman named Phillip Gause that contacted him about wanting to host an adult basketball tournament. The tournament would have 16 teams at a \$700 entrance fee, but there is a cash prize to the winner. This would only be a court rental fee for us. Brad expressed concerns about the payout, people can turn nasty when it comes to money. Tournaments like AAU the participants are all playing for the experience and for the trophy at the end of the tournament, but this one is for cash. Mike Barber, Diane Fenton, and Brad Epperley all said they really did not like the idea of a tournament like this one. Charlton will let the gentleman know that at this time we would be unable to host a tournament for cash.

Next month's meeting will be held on Monday, July 2, 2012.

Members Present: Doris Oliver
Mary Critzer
Jim Williamson
Mike Barber
Diane Fenton
Morgan Fenton
Chuck Muncy, Supervisor of Outdoor Sports Facilities and Parks
Charlton McCoy, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
Brad Epperley, Director of Parks and Recreation