

Warren County Parks and Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2018

Members present: Calvin Boyd (Chair), Virginia Broach, Derek Alston, Charla Duncan, Reinaldo Espinosa
Commissioner Jennifer Pierce was present until 6:30 via telephone.

Not present: Danielle Petrin, Simone Turner, Tyrone Simes

Staff present: Dickie Williams

Quorum present

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

There was no public comment except from Charmaine McKissick-Melton who said that she was there about the Soul City Pool. To this, Espinosa commented that the metal rod he had mentioned as a concern in a previous meeting was gone. He mentioned there is a hole that needs to be filled out at Soul City site. Dickie Williams stated that he is going to be contracting trash pick-up. Williams also stated that in the new fiscal year it would be fixed so that the public cannot drive right up to the basketball court. Reinaldo Espinosa brought up a wire by the woods that needs to be addressed. He is worried about liability. He also commented on a piece of steel that is sticking out of the ground (looks to be an old sign post).

There was no presentation of May 2018 meeting minutes.

Dickie Williams gave an update on SWAC-Babe Ruth Tournaments. Tournaments were held in July. It has been difficult to get participation due to summer vacation. Williams also announced the three Warren County Rec ball participants are playing with All Stars in Durham and will be going to Philadelphia for tournament play.

Williams gave an update on the County's recreation master plan. The countywide survey is in process. There is a sampling of county residents being conducted. Results should be available by the September or October County Board of Commissioners meeting. Charla Duncan brought up a concern that more residents were being engaged in the survey outside of the sampling process conducted by the consultant.

Williams gave an update on the rec summer camps. Baseball and softball have been the most popular. Vacation is an issue in participation rate. The basketball camp is ongoing. Espinosa brought up an idea to start a church league; he has seen a positive response to this type of programming in Vance County. It was suggested that interested groups can get a proposal together to present to the Recreation Department and Committee. The groups would just ask to use the County's facilities.

Williams announced that the County would be holding an appreciation dinner for volunteers on November 13th at 6 pm at the Armory (casual dinner). Most coaches have received a letter. This dinner is county funded.

Williams continued on to give an update about the Soul City Pool. Williams stated that he is working on getting a quote for pool repairs. The pool will not currently hold water. They have found 2 leaks from cracks in the pool. \$10,000 has been spent so far on pool repairs that have not worked. Once quotes and options come in on repairs for the pool that quote will be presented to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Pierce stated that repairs for the Soul City Pool were not included in the FY19 budget and that grants would need to be researched for repairs. Commissioner Pierce stated that she had recently been out to Soul City to walk the grounds, and she is in agreement that the pool is in need of an overhaul. She suggested that the Recreation Committee could come up with recommendations for the site in addition to pool repairs. Commissioner Pierce also stated that the county website and Facebook page could be used to do more PR about the Soul City pool.

Charla Duncan made a motion to table the Soul City pool matter until the results of the County's recreation survey come in. Derek Alston gave the second to the motion and all members voted in favor.

Charla Duncan went over the Grassroots Subgrant application that the County is submitting to the Warren County Arts Council. The grant was written by the County Manager who was unable to be at the meeting. The grant is for a mural project and event at the Recreation Complex.

Espinosa addressed his concerns around safety hazards with the basketball court cracks at the 158 rec center, stating that he believes the contractor should be responsible for fixing the cracks.

Charla Duncan requested a trash can/trash cans be placed around the track/on the backside of the walking track at the 158 rec center.

Derek Alston stated that he would like to see a dress code for coaches.

Reinaldo Espinosa commented on EMS delay at a previous incident at the rec complex. Williams stated that he gives the event schedule to EMS, who are present if they can be. Espinosa also stated a concern with the soda sold from the concession stand being flat, as well as a concern that concession parking is used only for those running the concession stand.

Espinosa brought up a request for the committee to meet once a month as opposed to once every two months. His reason being is the amount of work to be done in county recreation. Dickie Williams stated that in his experience attendance has been poor when the schedule is set for monthly meetings. Charla Duncan stated that the current meeting schedule is manageable for her as a member. The request did not move forward at any level.

Calvin Boyd reminded group that the committee needs to approve the agenda at the start of the meeting and that all meeting minutes and agendas need to be posted to the County website.

Derek Alston moved to adjourn the meeting; Virginia Broach gave the second.