

**RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
JANUARY 29, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hayden Barnes, Jeff Battles, Carl Brown, Willie Dickerson, Brantley Pittman (phone-in), and Jay Wilkoff

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sherisse Malone

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Quenton Brantley, Holli Browder, Becky Glisson, Tommy Groce, Pam Lee, Carson Revell, Teresa Snellings, and Lauren Vance

A meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board was held at the City Services Center, Community Room. Chairman Hayden Barnes was present and called the January 29, 2020 meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

The board minutes from November 20, 2019, were approved.

I. Director/Staff Update:

○ **Quenton Brantley (Aquatics):**

Fall swim lessons are finishing up. Summer swim lessons will begin in May. Swim lessons are available ages four through adults.

Learn to Swim graduation is scheduled for February.

Sun Coast Invitational Swim Meet will be held on February 13-15, 2020.

○ **Holli Browder (Director):**

The city will go live with a new work order system beginning in May.

The department received a grant for Night Ballers Basketball last year. We hope to bring it back again this season, however, this will depend on the Community Reinvestment Department and whether the department receives the grant.

We are still working on repairing Tillis Recreation Center. The roof should be near complete and then inside repairs will begin.

There were several SPLOST meetings throughout the city to discuss projects that are needed in Columbus. Citizens were able to fill out a survey for needed projects, however, only around 800 were turned in for the whole city.

Stand Beside Her Softball Tour will make a stop in Columbus. The tournament will be held on April 3, 2020, at South Commons. USA Softball will play CSU and Kennesaw State University.

Riverfest weekend will be held on May 2, 2020.

The department is starting a new program for kids to learn STEM projects through Green Power USA. This is an electric car program to help kids learn STEM-based components. There has been a commitment through a private donor to provide two cars with all needed accessories.

○ **Becky Glisson (Deputy Director):**

N/A

○ **Tommy Groce (Park Services):**

Park Services is through its busiest season and now it will be time to catch up on other maintenance issues that haven't been addressed during the busy summer season.

○ **Pam Lee (Community Schools):**

Staff is already beginning to plan various activities for Summer camp.

Community Schools are losing one of their schools for the before/after school program. Key Elementary will no longer accept the department's before/after school program.

Carson Revell (Athletics):

Athletics is beginning their busiest season.

February 22 will be the Columbus Youth Basketball championship at Frank Chester Recreation Center. Columbus Youth Basketball has grown tremendously from last year to this year.

Spring Adult Softball League will begin the 2nd week in March.

Little League and Youth Soccer will begin the 1st week in March.

○ **Teresa Snellings (Recreation Services):**

February 27, 2020, Frank Chester Recreation Center will host its annual Black History Program where the community can learn the importance of Black History while enjoying delicious food that would have been served in the past. Festivities will begin at 1:30 pm.

Empty Bowl will be held on March 8, 2020, at Northside Recreation Center.

Recreation Services and Therapeutics received grants to help fund Columbus Youth Basketball and Super Ballers. The grant for Columbus Youth Basketball helped families that couldn't afford registration and uniforms to still participate in the program. The grant for Super Ballers helped persons with disabilities play basketball through the Therapeutics Division.

○ **Lauren Vance (Finance Manager):**

N/A

II. Board Updates:

○ **Hayden Barnes:**

Chairman Barnes provided a synopsis to try and attract volunteers to serve on the Recreation Advisory Board. There are three vacancies that need to be filled, so hopefully, the advertisement will help peak interest in the community.

○ **Carl Brown:**

N/A

○ **Willie Dickerson:**

N/A

○ **Jay Wilkoff:**

N/A

With no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned 12:52 pm.

Minutes recorded by the Board Secretary, Lauren Vance.