

AMHERST COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
BOARD MEETING
August 25, 2014

The Amherst County Parks, Recreation and Cultural Development Board held its monthly meeting on August 25, at 6:30PM in the (former) Monroe Alternative School building.

The following members were present: Chairman John Mann, Gary Evans, Roni Tuggle, JoJo Allcock and Heather Follet. Also in attendance was Sara Lu Christian.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Mann.

Gary made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Roni seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Roni made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes as presented. Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jesse Stevens appeared before the Recreation Board to discuss an offer of the sale of his property - 29 Market - located adjacent to Riveredge Park, to the county. He suggested the county purchase this property for the purpose of using it as a visitor's center for the county. He is asking \$100,000 for it. This is the amount the property is assessed for. The Recreation Board will take this under consideration and discuss it at its September meeting.

Jonathan Browning appeared before the Recreation Board to provide the board with an update of his Eagle Scout Project. He is building 12 red cedar wood duck boxes, and erecting them at the county lakes. He has gotten all of his materials donated. This project will be completed by September 10th.

Sara Lu reported that the application process for Riveredge Park's Phase 2 – Trail Extension is moving forward. Additional forms and environmental reviews will be submitted to DCR by the end of the week.

The Board reviewed the July bills. Heather made a motion to approve the July bills. Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Sara Lu presented the revenue report for July.

The Board reviewed the monthly senior center reports, the activities and sports reports.

Sara Lu reported that the Senior Social for August took place on August 18th with a record breaking attendance of 300 . The menu consisted of subs and potato and macaroni salads. The Blue Ridge Stars Square Dancing group provided the entertainment. The next social is scheduled for September 15th.

The Board reviewed the Coolwell Community Center calendar, night fishing sales report, along with the theme park ticket sales report.

Sara Lu reported that the “THINGS TO DO” insert will be coming out in the September 11th *New Era Progress*. Several of the special events listed in the insert are the Annual Candy Hunt & Haunted Trail/Hayride at Coolwell Park on Saturday, October 25th; a “Trunk or Treat” event taking place at Virginia Select Auto on Friday, October 31st; along with the 50th Anniversary of the Amherst Public Library celebration taking place on Saturday, November 1st.

The Board reviewed the age policy for the coed softball league. The policy currently states the age limit to be 18 for the men’s league. Heather made a motion to adjust the age limit to align with the ASA policy which is 16 years of age (with parental approval). Roni seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The number of participants in the 2014 fall youth soccer season is higher than the 2013 season.

Sara Lu came before the board seeking another direction for a security system for Coolwell Park. The security system that was to be donated to the county for that purpose was not sufficient. Gary Evans agreed to write up a proposal for the county to use to develop an RFP for a security system at Coolwell Park.

Sara Lu reported that Lowe’s donation of materials and manpower for building and placing picnic tables at the county parks will be moving forward this fall. Heather reminded Sara Lu of the benches to be installed along the ridge line at Coolwell Park.

Plans are in the infancy stage to develop and promote a county wide bike route map for tourism purposes.

The county’s committee for the 150th Civil War Commemoration has begun meeting again and discussing possible final activities/events for the county (i.e. the return of the history mobile; re-enactments; etc.)

The next Recreation Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8th; 6:30PM; in the Monroe Center.

There being no further business, Gary made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Heather seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Date

Chairman

Secretary