

LAKELAND MUNICIPAL PARKS & RECREATION/NATURAL RESOURCES
ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, LAKELAND, TENNESSEE 38002

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by PRB Chair, Mark Donley.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

(C) Mark Donley	Present
Stacy Bond-Monasky	Present
Jessica Cannon	Present
Ben Ledsinger	Present
Jenny Kiesel	Present
Jeff Roman	Present
Amber Sawyer	Absent
Steve Snow	Present
Commissioner Michele Dial	Absent

Staff personnel present for the meeting were Pat O'Mara, Parks and Recreation Director, Andrew Fisher, Recreation Manager, and Kim Odom, Senior Center Manager and Special Events Coordinator. The meeting was presented by Mr. O'Mara.

III. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from Previous Meetings:

a. Regular Meeting Minutes, March 21, 2023

Jessica Cannon moved to approve the regular minutes of March 21, 2023.

Jeff Roman seconded the motion. All in favor.

IV. **CONSIDERATION & POSSIBLE ACTION ON ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

V. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

- 1) As part of Mayor Josh Roman's advisement to evaluate each of the youth sports programs Tennis Coach, Dave DeGutis, and Cheer Coach, Candance Nurse, attended the monthly meeting to discuss tennis and cheer programs.

Mr. DeGutis provided the Parks and Recreation Board (PRB) with an update on the success and needs for Tennis Adult and Youth programs for Lakeland. Mr. DeGutis provided input about needed lights and adding Pickleball courts. His goal is growth of tennis programs. Mr. DeGutis suggested that six courts are ideal at the school and two more at Windward Slopes. Currently, there are three or four participants in the adult program. There are 8 to 10 kids, broken up by age. Middle School has 15 students this year. There are currently no courts at the school. Lastly, Mr DeGutis recommends speed bumps on the road at Windward Slopes to slow traffic.

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continued from page 1

- 2) Cheer Coach, Candace Nurse approached the Parks and Recreation Board with updates on the Youth Rec and Competitive Cheer programs and discussed where she would like to see the programs go in the future. There was discussion about low numbers in competitive cheer and whether it should be removed from the program. Mrs. Nurse explained it was an off year for registration. The competitive program lost youth participants when some of the girls that were part of the competitive squad through Lakeland's contracted cheer program moved up to Lakeland Prep. She expressed that competitive cheer is a feeder to Lakeland Prep and went on to say that without competitive cheer a lot of those young ladies wouldn't make the Lakeland Prep team. Another topic was the cost for youth cheerleading and whether it was too expensive and that's why the numbers are. Mrs. Nurse provided the PRB with a breakdown of fees and talked about improving on the uniform fitting issues from last year. She is working on streamlining the process.

Rachel Goss and Kembree Darakshani, attended the meeting to provide input for the Cheer Program. Both moms provided input from their own experience and perception. Mrs. Goss pulled her daughter out of Lakeland's cheer program and moved her to a more competitive league. Mrs. Darakshani has a daughter that cheers on the recreational squad and she is fine with the Recreational Cheer Program. Both moms express respect and gratitude to Mrs. Nurse as the Cheer Coach.

Mrs. Nurse once again expressed that her main goal is to get the young ladies ready for Middle School.

- 3) The Senior Center's current programming and future goals were presented to the PRB. Among the goals for programming is to bring in more fitness classes. We currently have chair yoga and line dancing. We would like to bring in a Zumba Gold class for the seniors. Mrs. Odom is in the planning for a couple of day trips this spring and summer, using Durham Bus Services as the escort. The staff is also exploring the possibility of a membership fee.

3. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS & STAFF: None.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

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continued from page 2

5. NEW BUSINESS:

Update on Parks and Recreation activities and other items.

1) Parks Administration

a) Athletic Complex, Phase II

Lights remain a top priority for the Athletic Complex. Things are moving forward. Parks and Recreation were approved funds to light the two existing fields at the Sports Complex. A report has gone to MLG&W, and we've already gotten a reply. They will do the initial work and will be identifying the cost. There's a lot of moving parts. We are not letting our foot off the gas. Our hope is that it will be done this summer.

We are working forward on Phase II preliminaries on the architectural side. Design work continues and some work has started with the concession building layout.

2) IH Park Improvements

The parking lot replacement is moving forward. The asphalt is expected to be laid this week.

3) Special Events

Community-wide event planning is under way.

1. Stormwater Run is on May 6, 2023.
2. Fishing Rodeo is May 13, 2023
3. Movie Nights is May 20 and August 4, 2023
4. LAMP Concerts: June 24, July 22, August 26, and September 23
5. Harvest Festival is October 21, 2023
6. Breakfast with Santa or Christmas Festival is December 1st or 2nd.

Bands have been selected for the summer and contracts are being worked on.

- b) PRB members were presented with a printed report on the current programming for Youth Sports and Senior Center.

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023, 5:30 P.M.
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continued from page 3

1) ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The YMCA has approached the Board of Commissioners with their intent to bring a Y to Lakeland at the last BOC meeting. They presented a proposed rendering. Updates will be provided as this unfolds. There are a lot of moving parts.

- 2) ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business taken into action, Ben Ledsinger, moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Steve Snow. Motion carried; voice, vote, all present in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.




Amber Sawyer, Secretary

ATTEST:


Debra Murrell, City Recorder