

Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee
Monday, January 8, 2024
OPA Community Center – Foulz/Marlin Room
6:30 – 7:30 PM
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Participants Present: Five of seven members were present. Jeff Heavener attended as the Ocean Pines Board Liaison.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda for month of November was approved.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes for the month of December were approved.

Chairperson Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Topics Discussed:

- Update on Committee Questions & Concerns for the Board: The group discussed concerns that recommendations provided in the Recreation and Parks Annual Report were not considered in the 2024-2025 budget process. Feedback from the Board on the Recreation and Parks advisory committees plan and priorities has not been provided. Jeff Heavener stated that he would discuss with Rick Farr why the annual report was not considered in the budget review. Bill suggested that he would advocate at the 22 February Executive Meeting to adjust the by-laws so that the advisory committees and the Board have a communication process for a feedback loop on plans, priorities, recommendations, and activities. Patti made a motion for Bill request time at the next board meeting 20 Jan to brief the annual report and communication concerns. Motion was approved by all members. Jeff Heavener stated that he will coordinate to get Bill on the agenda for the next Board Meeting.
- OP Bike & Pedestrian Safety Committee: Patti briefed the group on the latest events for this committee. The North/South connection planning is underway to include various stakeholders and businesses. The County has begun work on the crosswalk at the intersection of South Gate and Food Lion Shopping Center. OP has the responsibility for continuing the connection from the crosswalk to the South Gate trail. Future bike and pedestrian safety awareness activities such as a Bike Rodeo and OP Community Bike ride will be scheduled in May.
- OPA Rec & Parks Advisory Committee By Laws Review: The committee agreed no changes/revisions needed to be made to C-13. Bill will respond to the By

Laws Committee. The group discussed a referendum would be needed to change the By Laws to allow communication between the Board, Advisory Committees and OP Employees. Patti suggested that we identify examples of communication processes from other HOA communities for communications between Staff and Advisory Committees. Bill stated that he would like to see a feedback loop between the Board and Advisory committees established for charging documents and annual reports. Jeff stated that he would ask the Board at the Annual Budget Review Meeting on Thursday 11 Jan, why none of the budget items recommended by the Rec & Park Advisory Committee were in the budget.

- OP Day Update: Becky discussed that presentation to the Board is upcoming. OP Day was approved by the Board for 20 April 2024. The purpose of the event is to showcase the Ocean Pines amenities and clubs to residents and non-residents.
- Gazebo at Veterans Park: Bill submitted the request to Board Liaison, Jeff Heavener to move the Gazebo from Veterans Park to the Dog Park. Jeff will seek status from the Board.
- Community Center Gym Floor: Best practice maintenance for Gym Floors was discussed. Kathy offered to contact gym flooring companies to find out best practices for routine maintenance.
- Monthly Rec & Parks trail walk: The group agreed to postpone monthly trail walks until the committee receives clarification on the communication process between the Board and the Advisory Committee for reports that have been submitted. Establishing a date for the next walk will be discussed at the next meeting on 12 Feb.

Actions for Committee:

- Jeff Heavener, Board Liaison, to coordinate with the Board for Bill to brief the Rec and Parks Annual Report at the upcoming Board Meeting on 20 Jan.
- All Committee Members to review the email sent by Jeff Heavener on 8 January that included the attachment - Recreation and Parks Plans and Priorities for discussion at the next meeting on 12 February.

Adjournment: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm.

Final Note: *Next Meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2024, 6:30 – 7:30 pm at Ocean Pines Community Center – East Room. The option of an online “Teams Meeting” is available upon request.*

