



Minutes
City of Hartsville South Carolina
Parks Committee Meeting
Wednesday December 14, 2022 – 5:00pm
The Coach TB Thomas Sport Center

Pursuant to Freedom of Information Act SC Code 30-4-80: Written notice was delivered to the press by email on Monday December 12, 2022 and duly posted at 701 W. Washington Street and on hartsvillesc.gov.

Members Present: Antonio de Ridder, Nique Knockemus, Brent Beasley

Members Absent: Rose Williams, Ken Hughes

Council Ex-Officio: Bobby McGee

Staff Present: Adam Bedard

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Chair, Antonio de Ridder.

Approval of minutes

Beasley made motion to approve August 2022 minutes as presented, second by Knockemus. Passed with all ayes

Date, Time, and Location of future meetings

Discussion of 2023 meetings at different park locations began. De Ridder discussed option of possible different locations to host meetings. The decision to have all meetings be listed at TB Thomas Sport Center was made and if the committee wanted to change the location for a future meeting, it will be made later on. Bedard read the 2023 dates as February 8, April 12, June 14, August 9, October 11 and December 13.

Current and Future Events at the Park

De Ridder open up the floor to discuss the current and future events at the parks. Knockemus talked about using current events that downtown already has going on in conjunction with a new event such as painting in the park. De Ridder then asked about bringing music into TB Thomas and how individuals or groups wanted to rent out the facility for a performance of some kind, how would they go about renting the building. Bedard then gave the committee all of the information they would need to rent out TB Thomas and the steps required by the City. De Ridder then discussed what brings people to the parks. Bedard said he could not speak outside of Byerly Park but talked about athletic practices bring individuals to Byerly Park. De Ridder then spoke about future events that the City has put on in the past and wanted to know if the plan was continue with them. Bedard informed the group that talks have been taking place with cricket organizers, cornhole organizers and flyball organizers to schedule the organizations to come to Byerly park in 2023.

Future Guest Speakers at the Parks Committee Meetings

De Ridder started off by talking about having a guest speaker or guest organization that would come in and speak about what they do and how they could help the recreation system. De Ridder joined a civil organization, and they have guest speakers come in and talk about De Ridder was trying to figure out how we could get someone to come and speak to the parks committee.

Scope of Parks Committee

De Ridder wants to discuss to broaden the scope of the committee and making sure we can discuss more than just facilities and wanting to be able to speak about other events. McGee recommended that we discuss in the next meeting what the committee would like to change the ordinance to but requires two reading

before it could be passed. Bedard then informed the committee that even if the committee comes up with a new scope of the committee, city council can say no, and we have to stay with the original ordinance.

Director updates

Bedard updated the committee that the sports tourism schedule has been finalized and sent out that we have 32 out of 42 weekend in the 2023, we have baseball and softball tournaments. We also have a few district tournaments and we have left weekends available incase we have organizations that want to come and rent the complex, we have available dates. De Ridder then ask about how do organizations know if a facility is being rented and Bedard informed the group that there is no good way to display the information but hopefully with a new website, there will be a feature that would allow the parks and recreation department to display the information.

Knockemus made motion to adjourn meeting, Beasley second. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm

Antonio de Ridder, Chair

Date