

Minutes
Recreation Committee
February 10, 2020
4th committee meeting
6:00 p.m.

Members present were Chairman Dale Black, Committee members Taft Matney and Michael Reynolds. Mark Putnam, HR Director and City Administrator Brandon Madden were also present. Recreation Director Joe Lanahan was not present.

1. Call to Order- Chairman Black

2. Public Comment- None

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- a. Recreation Committee Meeting: November 4, 2019
Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Reynolds seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

- a. Department Reports (Pages 4-5)

Recreation Director Joe Lanahan

Budget Review- The budget is holding steady. There will be a recommendation for the two Springfield Park playgrounds coming to the March committee meeting.

Quotes have been secured for fencing and turf at City Park. Cunningham Recreation said to add a swing set to the option selected would remove some of the other amenities because of the radius required by a swing set. Choosing option 2 would be the easiest way to move forward with the addition of the turf and fencing. Councilman Reynolds asked if the footprint could be expanded. Brandon said it is sitting on almost a plateau and so it would be hard to expand the play area. Chairman Black asked if the section towards the building could be taken out and a swing set be added where the steps to the walking trail are. Brandon asked if committee wanted to rebid it with the expanded footprint. If the City chooses the second option, we can add the swing set. Councilman Black said there could even be a separate swing set added later and still have it fenced in.

5. Unfinished Business

6. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on executive session pertaining to SC Code 30-4-

70 (a) (1)- Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee

Councilman Matney made a motion to go into executive session with Councilman Reynolds seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

Chairman Black reconvened the meeting. Councilman Matney reported that no decisions were made, and no action taken in executive session.

- b. Possible action on items discussed in executive session- None

7. Public Comment

Danny Day: I prepared this so I could show it. I live at 912 Fargo Street and have been a resident for 44 years. Most of you know, I sent you emails on a proposal. This is 10 years of background. My comment to you is after 20+ contacts with all levels of staff, the Recreation Director and City Administration, I got inconsistent information on rate structures and approval. I have had approvals before from the Department Head and the Fitness Director that got changed without any dialogue from Council. It was taken out of the system and has been handled about as poorly as you can for someone who has contributed as much as has been done.

The basic concept is two category proposals. More to the core is the authorization level that I think should be given to the Recreation Department Head and the Fitness Manager. Especially for things like recognizing contributions. I have the background laid out.

Finally, my main input is evaluating the two proposals. Also, I have insight none of you have because I have been there for ten years. I also know why people have left the Sports Center. You have gotten a lot of complaints. Bart in particular has. I never viewed Van as a powerful, authorization person, maybe he was, but I don't understand why you would take that authority away and give it to the Recreation Committee. It is a waste of your time, in my opinion. Some of that is protocol and policy. I have been a good ambassador for the Sports Center these 10 years, I think, and got you seven new members this year alone. I also haven't cost you \$20 an hour, two times a week, four weeks a month. I provide all the materials. It is a win-win, but lately I have been losing.

I have been waiting to get this resolved since November 4th. The digital system changed things up. As most of you know, I don't do things without details. I have a journal. Documentation is the most important thing you can do in my opinion. This is the original running group started at the Fitness Director's request so we could start the Peacock Run. Do you know how many are left? The core group was four, it is filled up to 13-14 people. If you come at 6:00 a.m., you would see a light show. I give you good exposure, more members than probably your other groups. Anyway, I ask you consider the proposal and let your manager do it. At restaurants when they do an early bird special, you should do a late night special. Many nights there is more staff than people. You really do have a growth problem and I know a retention problem. That is my input. Some of this is redundant in some respects, but it is your own personal copy that reiterates some of the earlier information and expands some of it.

Since November 4th, all of this has happened and all of these times I have tried to get clarification, the four core members is a charter member. She has gone to Planet Fitness, and I don't know if she will be back. You decide. Let me know. It is a way to grow membership and maintain it.

8. Committee Concerns- None

9. Adjourn- Chairman Black adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk