

MINUTES
RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2024
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5 E. BUTLER ROAD
1st committee meeting

Committee Members present were Frank Allgood (Chair) and Mark Steenback. Councilman Michael Reynolds was not present.
Recreation Director Bart Cumalander and City Administrator Seth Duncan were also present.

1. Call to Order- Chairperson Allgood

2. Public Comment

Paul Adams: 209 Lanewood Drive. His son plays at Pine Forest Park almost every day and the family has been in Pine Forest for about four years. Access to the park is the reason his family moved to the area. It is a great asset to the community. He has heard there will be improvements to the park, but one of the improvements is a concern to him. It is his understanding that there may be a plan for removal of some of the beautiful, mature trees around the park. Mr. Adams would like to keep the trees if that is possible. There are tree roots encroaching into the children's playground area, but Mr. Adams believes it is the roots from the smaller tree causing the problem and that the larger trees can be saved.

Mr. Adams said the money that would be spent on tree removal and artificial shade could be used to install a rubberized surface that could cover the roots entirely. The surface would cost about \$30,000.

Mr. Adams then mentioned a mud puddle is always on the walking trail and might need some attention.

Leo Swartwood: 306 Mapleton Drive. He has met some of his best friends under the shade trees in the park. He would like the trees to be left. People like to gather and talk under the trees. Mr. Swartwood said there has also been a suggestion to install lighting around the walking trail to allow people to walk late at night, but his preference would be no lighting. Lights after dark could promote unwanted activity in the park.

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

a. Recreation Committee Meeting: January 2, 2024

Motion: Councilman Steenback made a motion to approve the minutes with Chairman Allgood seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (2-0).

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

a. Recreation Director Bart Cumalander

Mr. Cumalander reported improvements on the Senior Center are continuing. A new roof will be installed soon.

The Sports Center equipment will be ordered this week. There should be a 6-8 week turnaround. Staff will try to keep the Center open during installation.

Basketball season is ending soon. A tournament will be held for 10U and 12U boys at the end of February.

Mr. Cumalander mentioned the resurfacing and painting of the tennis courts outside the Senior Center has been a challenge. It is difficult to get bids for the painting and installation.

Lacrosse participation is increasing. There are now about 75 players.

Mr. Cumalander said two employees have a wife/mother who is battling cancer. He would like to keep her in our thoughts.

Councilman Steenback asked if the Sports Center equipment installation would go quicker if the center was closed. Mr. Cumalander said he wanted to try to do the installations on Saturday after the center closes.

Chairman Allgood asked about the Senior Center outside courts. Mr. Cumalander said staff is having difficulty obtaining bids to get the courts painted. The courts will be turned into multi-purpose to accommodate pickleball as well.

Chairman Allgood asked about girls' participation in flag football. Mr. Cumalander said there are about 3-4 girls on each team. There are girls' basketball teams as well, but some girls want to play with the boys.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Trail Branding and Bridge Naming

In December 2023, the Recreation Committee supported the idea of releasing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to explore the cost of branding for the City's trails and the new pedestrian bridge. Staff reached out to the City's on-call marketing and advertising firm for budget assistance for this project. Drum submitted the following scope of work and budget:

- Mauldin Trail System Logo Design \$5,000-\$6,500
- Bridge Naming and Logo Design \$6,500-\$8,000
- Implementation Plan \$1,500

\$13,000-\$16,000

Should the Committee and Council desire to move forward with the quote from Drum Creative, staff recommend funding this project from the H&A Fund Balance.

There are several trails in the City- David Bates Greenway, trails at City Park and Sunset Park, the trail at the pedestrian bridge, a new trail at Allston Townes, and a few others.

Chairman Allgood asked if there is a timeline and how they would go about the process.

Mr. Duncan said that information is not available tonight, but he could get those answers.

Motion: Councilman Steenback made a motion to send this item to Council with Chairman Allgood seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (2-0).

6. New Business- No new business

7. Public Comment-

Dan Beaver: 314 Maple Drive. He had a conversation with the chamber, and he asked them a question about the Swamp Rabbit trail. Is there a plan that exists for connecting our trails to the Swamp Rabbit trail?

Chairman Allgood said public comment is not the time for back-and-forth discussion, but yes, there is a plan.

8. Committee Concerns- None

9. Adjournment- Chairman Allgood adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk