

Chester County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Minutes

R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Building

Conference Room at 6:00 pm

May 22, 2017

Present: Chairman Jamie Wooten, Vice-Chairman Jerry Thomas, Secretary Wade Young, Walker Thompson, Jr.

Absent: James P. McNeil and Cheryl McBrayer with prior notification Kyle Heffner, County Liaison and Council Member, Brad Jordan.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wooten at 6:25 with pledge and invocation.

Although we did not dispense with the previous meeting's minutes for approval, we did recognize that it was forgotten.

The board had Joanie Winters join to discuss Parliamentary Procedures and specifically establishing a "Quorum" so that members cannot leave to disrupt votes. If a quorum is not established, we can discuss, but not vote. The process of any action should flow as follows: Motion, Second, Discussion, and Vote. A motion should say, "I make a motion that we advise county council to..." If there is a time that the board decides that the first motion should be revised, the members need to withdraw. In order to withdraw a motion, the member who seconded the motion needs to withdraw their second, and the member who made the motion needs to withdraw. If either member refuses to withdraw, then the motion must go to a vote.

Joanie Winters also stated that the members should always address the chairman of the board, because he/she is the facilitator. Although a member can recommend to the chairman to call for the question to vote, it is the chairman that actually has to call for a vote. If there is a true bona fide conflict, the members should recuse, and not abstain. If the members recuse themselves, they have to state on the record why. If ever the member abstains, the member is voting with majority. Also, Joanie Winters mentioned that the minutes do not have to reflect every word spoken, only the essence. If the member would like the record to reflect every word that they speak, the member needs to state, "For the record".

The Freedom of Information Act (F.O.I.A) was discussed next. It basically states that the public can request to set in on our meetings, and also request documents. If a citizen requests any documents, agendas, or minutes, we have 10 days to respond, and 30 days to produce any documents. If the document is more than 2 years old, we then, have 35 days to produce the documents. There are very few times that our board can go behind doors into

an executive session, and those reasons are: To receive legal advice, to discuss a contractual matter, and discuss personnel matter. If ever our board is in an executive session, we can never vote and have to stay on topic and never take notes. In regards to the agenda, we must post it 24 hours before our meeting, and must be in a prominent place. Once we publish the agenda, we cannot stray from it or we will be in violation of F.O.I.A. In order for our agenda to change, two-thirds decide that there is an emergency to add to the agenda. If ever a member gets sued as a part of the board, the county will provide legal representation.

Dr. Bain returned to discuss the proposed district track for the Chester County School District, City of Chester and Chester County joint venture. We have \$500,000 from the Penny Sales Tax specifically for the renovation of Joe Collins Stadium. There were two estimates for the renovation. The first was \$810,000 for the field with grass and irrigation system, and the second was \$1,200,000 for the field with field turf. Dr. Bain mentioned that the fund for the track was just given \$70,000 from Creighton Coleman and the legislative delegation and funds from City of Chester A-Tax profits. After Chester County, City of Chester Parks and Recreation, and the Chester County School District pooled their money together, they were \$200,000 short to start the project.

Wade A. Young made a motion to ask Chester County Council for \$200, 000 for Joe Collins Stadium and Walker Thompson, Jr. seconded. The group had a discussion. Jamey Wooten spoke on both the pros and cons. All members worried about the rising crime in the area and at 7:21pm Jamey Wooten called the vote. The vote did not pass at 2 to 2. Jerry Thomas and Jamey Wooten voted against the motion. Walker Thompson, Jr. and Wade A. Young voted for the motion.

Immediately after, Jerry Thomas made a motion to look into crime suppression and traffic study from the SC D.O.T. Jamey Wooten seconded the motion, and the call to vote was unanimous by: Jamey Wooten, Jerry Thomas, Walker Thompson, Jr. and Wade A. Young.

Before Dr. Bain left, Jamey Wooten stated that he would like to attend the meeting between the City, County, and the School District on June 12th, at 11:30. I forwarded all board members' email addresses and Walker Thompson, Jr.'s phone number on June 7, 2017.

The next item discussed was with Shane Stuart and Robert Hall concerning the Recreation Agreement with Great Falls, which was signed on September 21, 1995. Shane Stuart noted at that time, it gave all of the recreational responsibilities to the county. It allowed county citizens to access: Great Falls' Town Park, Republic Park, and Sunset Park. Great Falls also gave Chester the rights to 1992 Ford Van, and office equipment and sporting equipment. Stuart also mentions that he cannot be sure where any of the equipment, supplies and van is at the current date. Thomas stated that he thinks that the county should control the usage of all Great Falls' parks because the county maintains the parks but Great Falls owns the parks and still has to sign off on who uses them. Chairman Wooten stated that any M.O.U that Chester County has with any county school should mention that the field is not under the district's facility use policy. Robert Hall stated that he would bring forms of the financial breakdown so the board could see the expenses while taking care of the fields.

The #6 item on the agenda was the master plan for Rodman. Jerry Thomas makes a motion to advice the council to do a cost study of adding a district track to the proposed Rodman plan. Chairman Wooten seconds the motion. There was no discussion or questions

included. Chairman Wooten called for a vote. Thomas, Wooten, Young voted for the motion, and Thompson, Jr. voted against. The motion passed 3-1.

Immediately after, Wooten motions to advise council to accept the Dawson Dr. master plan. Young seconds. No discussion. The group votes unanimously to accept the motion.

The last subject on the agenda regarded the park rentals. Stuart discussed the purposed rental fees for 2 of the parks in the area, which would go into effect on July 1st if the committee recommends passing a motion. Although the Chester Baseball Complex is not ready, as of yet, the purposed rental would be \$200. The Baton Rouge Park in Wilksburg is currently \$75. The County Supervisor is purposing to increase the park to \$100 for maintenance, and the park also includes a kitchen and bathroom space. The Gayle Ball Field has a refundable rental fee of \$25 for practice only (for bathroom key), and a purposed rental fee of \$75. The increase in purposed rental fees will go to the budget ordinance. The rental fees will be located at every county park, and will include the contact information. In regards to Baton Rouge Park, committee member Walker Thompsons, Jr. asked Stuart who receives the donation that is solicited? Stuart responded that he does not know, because the county does not receive it. Thompson, Jr. stated that he would like the affairs at Baton Rouge to be handled the correct way.

Regarding the proposed parks, Chairman Wooten made a motion to advise the county to update and consider the increased fees. Thompson, Jr. then seconded, and there was no discussion from the board. The vote that followed was unanimous from the board.

Robert Hall stated that he takes care of a lot of areas around the parks around Chester and that we may need to make a recommendation that they hire a Parks and Recreation department. I stated that I would add it to the next meeting's agenda. Shane Stuart also stated that he would add the Great Falls and Fort Lawn relicensing agreement for the swim beach to the agenda.

After all topics cleared, Chairman Wooten made a motion to adjourn, with the complete board seconding. The vote completely passed. After the meeting adjourned, it was realized that we did not set a date for the following meeting. County Supervisor Stuart mentioned that he would email everyone a few dates, and see what got the best response.