



CITY OF FLORENCE

PARKS AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 4th, 2021

PRESENT: Roger Malfatti, Barry Wingard, Donnie Carter, Alexis Fleming, Thomasina Foster, Nikki Player, and Walter Sallenger.

OTHERS: Chuck Pope, Jerry Dudley, Victoria Nash, and Tim Wilson.

ABSENT: James McLaughlin, Michael Montrose, George Scipio, Sanovia Arcenaux, Bruce Malik, Simon Lee, Jerry Keith, Jr., Scott Murphy, Anna Belk-Wentzel, Bubby Floyd, and Carlos Washington.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Roger Malfatti called the meeting to order at 8:30AM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 2021 meeting were approved.

APPEARANCES/REQUESTS BEFORE COMMISSION:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

No vacancies.

STAFF REPORTS:

Chuck:

The new Sports Complex bids came back higher than expected. After having value engineering done the bids were turned in last week and came back at \$12,480,000 base bid. The City has almost \$4M of expenditures to provide. The bid was awarded to a company, Edcon General Contractors, located in the middle of South Carolina. The contract signing process is underway and the construction is expected to start in the next month or two. It is believed that the project is on a good timetable.

The Skatepark at McLeod Park is coming along. The company doing that project continues to make good progress. A lot of concrete that has been poured and continues to be poured. In combination of the funds the City was able to allocate along with the funds FloSk8 was able to fundraise donate has made this able to become a nice park. This project is expected to wrap up in the next thirty to forty-five days.

The Parks and Beautification Commission was lost in the transfer from the old

website to the new. It will be added to the new one.

Tim:

Protocols have been put into place and enforced. These protocols include those that have been suggested by DHEC and the CDC.

The basketball season is underway. The season is going well, and there have been no major COVID-19 related issues.

Registration for spring sports started February 1st. This includes registration for baseball, softball, and track. Soccer registration ended at the end of January. This is the start of a busy time of year for the athletic staff.

Tournament season is starting. Last weekend, the weekend of January 30th, a tournament was held at the Florence Tennis Center. There will be a college tournament held at the Tennis Center this coming weekend, the weekend of February 6th. There are two more tournaments scheduled at the Tennis Center after that.

The City's soccer season is starting in the next couple of weeks. After a meeting with Florence School District One it has been agreed to host the West Florence soccer games at the Soccer Complex and the South Florence soccer games at Freedom Florence for this season.

Jerry:

The demolition of the Billy Jeffords Center is complete. A scope of work is being written for the renovations to come at the Levy Adult Center. The bid process for that should open in the next few weeks.

The community centers are open. There have been intermittent closings due to staffing issues related to COVID-19. The recreation staff is trying to keep consistency while working around these issues.

There were several vacancies throughout the division. These job openings are being advertised. These positions include Activity Instructors, parttime positions, and Program Specialist. The goal is to have a full staff by the time Spring Break and Summer Camps are scheduled to be held.

Victoria:

Victoria is glad to be back and ready to get back into the swing of things.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Tree Removal Request

No Requests

Program Development

No Report

Annual Plan Committee

The retreat for this year was postponed due to COVID-19. Last years' Annual Plan will be sent out to the Commission members. The goal will be to meet in small committees to discuss the Annual Plan.

Bylaws Committee

No Report

Arbor Day

No Report

Trails

No Report

Veterans Park

Barry:

Nine Wall of Honor applications have been received for this year. Five applications have been sent out this week to one family. Applications are needed for this next portion of the wall.

WBTW has a segment called the Three Degree Guarantee on the 6PM and 11PM news. If the weatherman is within three degrees of the actual temperature Florence Toyota will donate \$100 to the Florence Veterans' Park throughout February.

The twentieth anniversary of 9/11 is this year. Barry's hope is to partner with the City to involve the first responders in a ceremony within the park.

There are needs for upgrades and additions at the park. Sidewalks are planned and scheduled. The company that is to be laying these has been waiting on appropriate weather.

The new City website has a page dedicated to the park. New photos are being taken and are expected to be placed on the page within the next month along

with the application for the Wall of Honor.

The new Veterans' Village was funded by the federal government and is being taken over by the state. There are two former Parks and Beautification Commission members names that have been nominated to have rooms named after them.

Park Oversight Committee

Freedom Florence	Good	Bubby and Carlos
Dr. Iola Jones Park	Good	George
Jeffries Creek Park	Good	Barry
Levy Park	Good	James
Lucas Park	Good	Scott
Maple Park	Good	Thomasina
McLeod Park	Good	Bubby
Northside Park	Good	Thomasina
Northwest Park	Good	Anna
Rail Trail	Good	Walter
Soccer Complex	Good	Bruce and Donnie
South Park	Good	Roger
Timrod Park	Good	Nikki
Tennis Complex	Good	Alexis
Veterans Park	Good	Veterans Park Comm.

New Business:

Meeting was called to adjournment.