

CUMBERLAND COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minute Notes

A meeting of the Cumberland County Recreation Commission (CCRC) was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at The Authority in Millville and via Microsoft Teams and/or Teleconference.

Present: JT Burks
Chris Wilson
Ken Sheppard
Director Barber
John Fuqua
Katie Nelson
Carman Daddario, Jr.
Commissioner Albrecht

Staff: Matthew Pisarski, Department Head
Omarey Williams, Shared Services Coordinator
Wanda Riviera, Confidential Assistant

Guest: Samantha Cruz, City of Millville
Melvin Williams, 856Love

Mr. Williams welcomed the new members to the recreation commission; he explained the commission is an advisory board that gives advice and then goes to the County Commissioners for approval.

Approval of Minutes – February 2022

A motion was made to approve the minutes from November by Mr. Wilson. The motion was seconded by Director Barber and passed unanimously. Ms. Nelson and Mr. Sheppard abstained.

40th Annual CC Kids' Fishing Derby-Sunday, May 1, 2022

Mr. Williams has distributed the fishing derby flyer to everyone. Contact has been made with the city of Bridgeton and volunteers. Mr. Wilson said rods and tackle boxes have been donated. Every year the color is changed for the t-shirts that the kids receive, Mr. Williams suggested getting tie-dye shirts for 2022, examples are in the packets. Mr. Wilson commented that 50 rods have been donated. Mr. Wilson said Black Stone Fishing is one organization that donated rods and they also do fishing shirts. Mr. Wilson is going to send Mr. Williams the examples of some shirts from Black Stone Fishing. Mr. Pisarski commented that a larger turn out is expected this year. Signage will be place around the lake to guide people to fishing spots. Mr. Pisarski suggested upping the prizes since tackle boxes are being donated and adding runner up to the list of winners.

Ms. Cruz asked if information will be handed out the day of the derby, or if the county will be there with an information table. Millville is having their fishing derby June 5 and would like to provide information to be given out.

Parks and Facilities Initiative

Everyone received in their packets the list of parks in the county. Mr. Williams said there is funding to rehab some of the facilities on the list. Mr. Pisarski asked the commission to look over the list and add any park that is missing. Several members made additions and/or corrections. Mr. Sheppard asked if ownership mattered when receiving funding, the property must be publicly owned or be owned by a non-profit to receive funding. Mr. Pisarski said criteria for evaluation has to be determined. Mr. Pisarski commented that a master plan is being done for the fairgrounds and it is being facilitated by The Authority. It was discussed to have the company that is doing the masterplan for the fairgrounds to look at the parks and let them help us come up with the criteria used to improve the parks. Several commission members feel they know the area better to set the criteria than an outside company would. Other members feel it would be a fair process having an outside company having input, so a certain area is not accused of getting preferential treatment. Mr. Pisarski said the recreation commission would advise the consulting firm and it was stated the consulting firm works for us. Recreation, Tourism and Cultural and Heritage will all have input. Mr. Wilson suggested doing a tier system for the parks.

Sponsorship Requests

Melvin Williams stated this year will be the fourth year for Unity Day in Bridgeton. Unity Day will take place on July 2nd. Melvin Williams is asking for a sponsorship because this year they are adding softball and volleyball to the activities. Funds would be used to purchase t-shirts for the kid's playing softball and volleyball.

Everyone received in their packet a sponsorship letter from Millville Girls Softball. The softball league needs funding to renovate and rebuild the complex of fields.

A motion was made to approve the two sponsorships for \$750 each by Mr. Wilson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuqua and passed unanimously.

Mr. Williams said sponsorship guidelines are based on a two-tier system, \$250 and \$750. Tier one is any community event based in Cumberland County that has a recreational component, tier two does not have a recreational component.

Planning Department Updates – Matthew Pisarski

Mr. Pisarski visited Vine Street playground (Bridgeton) the property is County owned. It is located catty-corner from the Prosecutor's Office. It was suggested to start with a clean up day with recreation members to remove the trash and cut the grass. Mr. Pisarski said he would reach out to the Prosecutor's office to see if there is special funding for improvements. Mr. Wilson suggested asking the community to help clean up area and help with the upkeep. Mr. Fuqua said the City of Bridgeton is having a clean up day on March 26.

County Commissioner Comments

Director Barber welcomed the new members, and she is excited to see an active commission.

Commissioner Albrecht welcomed the new members and would like to see the rivers and reserves included in the park list. Mr. Pisarski said a new list will started including those areas plus boat launches and wildlife areas.

Recreation Commissioners Comments

Mr. Daddario said he is excited to be here and see all the active members.

Public Comments

Correspondence

Old/New Business

Mr. Williams said he would like to honor previous commission member at the next meeting, Mr. Kates, Mr. Timberman and Mr. Blandino. Director Barber suggested doing citations.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Sheppard. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and passed unanimously.