

## Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department

### Advisory Board

#### 4/29/2022 Minutes

- The meeting was called to order in person at three separate times.
- Members present 3:15 p.m.: Adam Crocker, Fallon Brewington, and Adriana Janker.
- Members present 4:15 p.m.: Adam Crocker, Jose Castellanos, Amberly Weber, and Eli Schilling.
- Members present 5:30 p.m.: Adam Crocker and Shekeeta McCrimmon.
- Members absent: Josh Wilhelm and Koral Loehner.
- The previous minutes were presented.
- Adam updated the board on the current staffing situation. The new athletic coordinator, Tyler Huneycutt, has been working with the department for approximately a month. The new program coordinator, Jordan Yount, has been with the department for just under a week. Jordan's first day was the Blue & Brews festival.
- Adam updated current park projects. The Colonial Heights parking project is scheduled to be completed the last three weeks of June. This timeframe will keep it in the current fiscal year, while completing work at the least intrusive time that we have left. \$65,000 is currently budgeted for next year to complete the Main Street Park shelter project. This project will include the shelter, concrete pad, picnic tables, grills, electrical outlets, and water spigot. It was asked about shading for the playground, and Adam is going to work on plantings to help shade the equipment at least from the morning sun. \$65,000 is also currently budgeted for next year to solidify the foundation of the Malcolm Blue Farm house and the blacksmith shop. These funds will also go toward repairing or replacing any decaying material on the exterior of the house. This project should get all of the structures at the farm in to good structural condition.
- Adam updated spring programming:
  - The Youth Kickball League is just wrapping up after a successful season. We had 186 participants this year, compared to 167 last year. There were only a handful of spots available in the 11-15 year old age group, while the 4-6 and 7-10 age groups were full.
  - The Spring Break Camp was capped at 20 participants, as we only had 2 camp counselors to run the program. Campers took trips to the Putt Putt Fun Center, Greensboro Science Center, NC Zoo, Defy Gravity, and Round About Skate Center. Adam updated that so far, staffing for summer camp is looking better.
  - The Easter Eggstravaganza was once again held at the Malcolm Blue Farm, with approximately 550 people coming out. Parking and space was so limited, the department will look to stagger age groups at different times beginning next year. There were approximately 252 participants last year, though that was

using COVID protocols and limiting participation in each age group. The last time this event was held in full, we had approximately 400 people at the event.

- Blue & Brews was also held at the Malcolm Blue Farm, with 726 paid participants, approximately 750 people in total. Unlike the previous year where we seemed to have a huge rush of people (approximately 915) in the first opening of programs during COVID, we had a very steady day. Parking was never an issue as people seemed to be coming and going at a very even pace.
- After the agenda was covered, each group toured the old Aberdeen Elementary School gymnasium and auditorium to look at the space and discuss the town's current plans with the property. Adam explained to each group that the town currently intends to hold onto the gymnasium and auditorium for recreational use, while selling off the other property/structures for development. The structures clearly need a lot of work, but there is a good amount of space and definite possibilities to make them strong and viable additions to the town's offerings. A couple of the groups did also want to see the library space, and Adriana is very interested in other amenities and offerings that could be offered onsite if the town decided to keep the whole property, rather than sell it for development.
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2022 via ZOOM.
- The meetings were adjourned at 4:16 pm, 5:24 pm, and 5:54 pm.