

**KANAWHA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
COMMISSION MEETING
February 19, 2020
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at the Coonskin Clubhouse Hearth Room Charleston, West Virginia. This is the monthly meeting of the Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Commission and Vice President Drumheller called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Janet Drumheller, Stuart Smith, Andrew Jordon, Pat Donahoe, John Huddleston, Karen Haddad, Dave Pope

ABSENT: Doug Tench, Allen Tackett, Chris Hamilton, Don Stamper

OTHERS

Jeff Hutchinson, Director

Brad Maschari, Chief Eddie Amburgey, Sarah Menefee

Jordan Herrick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Pope made a motion to approve minutes and Commissioner Huddleston seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Drumheller reported that the employees went to the Department of Corrections for their yearly training where they read them the packet on how to work the inmates.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Commissioner Smith reported that last month we talked about the Holiday Lights and it is needing an overhaul. Commissioner Smith met with the Kanawha Garden Club and Ben Franklin Institute on working to build larger displays with LED C-7 bulbs. She is wanting to see if these trade schools and clubs can work with us. Jeff said that we submitted a proposal to the County Commission in hopes to get a grant written. The proposal came to \$250,000 and this is for large LED C-7 displays. Which are easier to replace the bulbs and use less electricity. Plus, larger displays for the visitors to enjoy. The Kanawha County Commission had no clue how much these light displays actually cost and didn't expect that high of number. Commissioner Smith reported that the shelter at Big Bend is coming along and they have enclosed the kitchen and bathrooms. They are finishing the wiring and the plumbing and then it will be ready by April. Vice President Drumheller reported that Bill Curry, with the Coal River Group, introduced a proposal to the legislation to make

Meadowood Park a Flatwater Commission along with other counties along the Coal River. It was in the Sunday's paper that they are trying to get an organization together.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Donahoe reported that last month audit got a clean opinion which is the best and Sarah will give the last two months of financials. Sarah reported that from July – December all facilities had a total income of \$1,106,980 with a gross profit of \$1,071,583. The total expenses were \$992,582 with a net income of \$79,000. She said that the field rental is down because we no longer have UC using the facility but will get a little from them this spring with practices. Coonskin All Facilities had total income of \$96,690 with a gross profit of \$88,160. The total expenses were \$257,545 with a net loss of \$(169,384). Coonskin golf had a total income of \$15,229 with a gross profit of \$12,458. The total expenses were \$106,042 with a net loss of \$(93,583). We have not been charging for golf at Coonskin due to the conditions of the course. Big Bend had a total income of \$260,011 with a gross profit of \$234,220. The total expenses were \$229,615 with a net income of \$,4,604. Kanawha County December alone had a total income of \$162,999 with a gross profit of \$161,028. The total expenses were \$127,414 with a net profit of \$33,614. The expenses were down 19,207 from last year. Coonskin golf had a total income of \$172 with a gross profit of \$116. The total expenses were \$13,106 with a net loss of \$(12,989). Big Bend had a total income of \$10,358 with a gross profit of \$9,381. The total expenses were \$25,494 with a net loss of \$(16,113). The income was \$5,032 better than last year and the expenses were down \$5,693 from last year.

July – January all facilities had a total income of \$1,253,379 with a gross profit of \$1,217,302. The total expenses were \$1,143,343 with a net income of \$73,959. Coonskin All Facilities had a total income of \$121,351 with a gross profit of \$112,637. The total expenses were \$292,581 with a net loss of \$(179,944). The expenses were down \$17,344 from last year. Coonskin golf had a total income of \$15,625 with a gross profit of \$12,802. The total expenses were \$118,461 with a net loss of \$(105,658). Most of the expenses went to chemicals and fertilizer for the front 9. Big Bend had a total income of \$265,699 with a gross profit of \$239,496. The total expenses were \$264,687 with a net loss of \$(25,191). We got \$48,097 in reimbursement from the storm damage. The income was up \$55,888 from last year and had good days for play in December, January, and February so far. January alone all facilities had a total income of \$146,398 with a gross profit of \$145,719. The total expenses were \$150,760 with net loss of \$(5,041). Coonskin golf had a total income of \$395 with a gross profit of \$343. The total expenses were \$12,419 with a net loss of \$(12,075). Big Bend had a total income of \$5,687 with a gross profit of \$5,276. The total expenses were \$34,876 with a net loss of \$(29,599). Expenses were up in maintenance and repair as the redone the shop and getting rental equipment for repairs. Sarah reported that she turned the budget in to the County Commission on February 7th and there were no changes and is the same as last year. The raises were included in the budget. Commissioner Smith made a motion a accept the financials and Commissioner Jordon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

GOLF COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pope started with a statement apologizing for a comment he made in an earlier meeting about being over served at Thanksgiving dinner. He did not mean to offend anyone when he made this comment and his apology was accepted. Commissioner Huddleston made a motion to accept Commissioner Pope's apology and Commissioner Jordon seconded the motion. All were in favor. Commissioner Pope moved to say that we met with Kelly Shumate, head agronomist with the Greenbrier, last week. Mr. Shumate has designed a short course at the Greenbrier which is a par 3 but has different green complexes that makes it different than any other course. He used Google earth to do a design for the front 9 holes at Coonskin. He did The Greenbrier's course on 12 acres of land and we have more than that on the front 9. He has the course going in reverse than what it is now and most the balls will be playing into the middle of the course if you hit a bad shot. Commissioner Pope said this could be a great thing if the airport comes in and we lose the back 9 holes. He said that Mr. Shumate is coming in on Monday with the rendering and he said that it is not going to be cheap and we need a good sales pitch to get the funding.

Commissioner Pope said the course would take about an hour to play and you don't need all your clubs. He said our course is good for beginners which is great but not challenging for experience golfers. With Mr. Shumate's design and the complex greens, that most golfers will never get to see will make it a challenge. He would like to make the greens molded after famous courses across the world which would attract more golfers and bring in more money. Mr. Shumate's payment for the rendering and design work will be paid for out of the Coonskin Foundation and Commissioner Pope believes the payment will be reasonable. If we could get started in July the we would get the fall and spring growing season and could be open by next May. Commissioner Pope commented that Kanawha County Commission took away a 9-hole course in Dunbar and this would be a good way to give back. Mr. Shumate is also looking at the Big Bend course to make it better without shutting the course down. Commissioner Jordon commented that we need to do something to attract more golfers and we need a new concept. He said that these short courses are popping up all over the country and this will help the range as well. Jeff added that we have the golf population to pull it off but need the funding to do it. Commissioner Jordon said that the status on the airport project is a couple years away and they did a public hearing already. He said that it could take 2 years for an environmental study and then more time before they put a blade down. Jeff said when this is done and you see what is left of the park it will blow your mind.

COONSKIN FOUNDATION

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Amburgey reported that he received a call from a neighbor near Meadowood Park and there were young kids in the field early that morning. He went and checked it out and found an older sports style motorcycle. He said it was in rough shape and they didn't come back for it so he reported it stolen.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Jeff reported that we have gotten a lot of work done this winter and the good weather brought the golf revenue up for this time of year. He said that all equipment has been fixed and the shelter at Big Bend is getting finished. FEMA is working on the river trail and the rain has put them a little behind because the river was up and they had lost some equipment because of it. Jeff said that he has not heard from the YMCA and Erin Dydland is running the YMCA now and we will get with them next month.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

LEGAL REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pope made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Vice President Drumheller called the meeting adjourned at 2:39pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 2:00p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeffrey K. Hutchinson, Director