

CLAYTON COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

**Meeting Minutes
Saturday – 1/23/10
VIP Complex**

The meeting was preceded by a tour conducted by Assistant Director Troy Hodges of Department facilities and parks with Chair Tony Antoine and Member Jim Buckman.

Members Present: Tony Antoine, Jim Buckman, Michael Cooper, and Jarvis Jackson

Members Absent: Barbara Cutts-Griffin, Janie Griffin, R. Tod Nichols, II

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair Tony Antoine, stating that the items for discussion would include the Director's Report, how we measure success as it relates to the Fiscal Year 2010 budget; and measurements of the roll out of the Master Plan.

Director's Report: (Detrick Stanford):

- **The Commission For Accreditation of Park and Recreation (CAPRA) Certification:** A letter and fact sheet were distributed to Board members and a video was shown outlining what CAPRA Certification entails and the benefits of the Clayton County Parks and Recreation Department becoming an accredited agency.
- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) at Flat Shoals Park:** There is \$200,000 available for capital improvements at Flat Shoals Park. We are in the process of gathering costs and determining priorities, in collaboration with Commissioner Hambrick. Hope to begin improvements in early Spring.
- **Georgia Recreation & Park Association (GRPA) Annual Legislative Day – February 16, 2010:** A day when agencies from around the State meet with their respective county legislative delegation to discuss support of issues surrounding Parks and Recreation on the state and national level, followed by a Legislative Reception, when . Invitations will be forthcoming.
- **New Website Design:** Reviewed new Department website design. Member Jim Buckman suggested members send out notification of website to their personal contacts including a link directly to it, setting up a network for change. It was agreed that information on the Advisory Board would be added to the website.
- **OnLine Registration:** The IT Department is working with us on developing the specs so we can advance to online registration at all sites within the Department. We are hoping to have a Request For Proposal (RFP) issued by mid-Spring.
- **Greenspace Update:** The County has completed the acquisition (through SPLOST funds) of the Virginia Stephens property and we are working on trail development in the corridor.
- **Partnerships:**
 - Board of Health – Tobacco Free Campaign – working on marketing plan and reimbursement for signage already installed in park sites
 - Board of Health – Midnight Basketball League, beginning in early summer targeting 14-22 year olds, is in the proposal stages and will include an educational component.
 - AARP/NRPA 10 Week Walk Program – Department was approved as a participant and we are in the development stage, working with the Senior Services Department.
 - Senior Services Department – Working on senior user fee policy in collaboration with the Senior Services Department. We have submitted to the Board of Commissioners a proposed \$5/year fee for senior County residents and \$15/month for senior non-residents.

Chair Antoine said he would accept a motion to recommend going forward with the CAPRA Certification process. Member Jarvis Jackson made the motion; motion was properly seconded by Member Jim Buckman; and was carried unanimously.

General Discussion:

- Website – would like to have large posters for senior and recreation centers announcing we have a new website
- Kids Outdoor Initiative – 1st Annual BBQ Cook Off was successful and raised scholarship funds for County youth
- GRPA Legislative Forum – Community advocates are under-represented and we need to tell the story by attending
- Member Jarvis Jackson stated he was 100% on board with the CAPRA certification
- Member Michael Cooper discussed Midnight Basketball program
- Chair Tony Antoine stated we need to get senior citizens more involved
- Need signage in the facilities that there will be changes made in the parks
- Commissioner Singleton has a potential land improvement project – Paradise Park (Grant Park Road)
- Director Stanford will be providing quarterly reports to the Advisory Board and Board of Commissioners, beginning in April 2010, and would like to see the Advisory Board submit periodic reports to the Board of Commissioners on their findings and deliberations.

Master Plan – Measurements For 2010:

- Preparing for SPLOST funding -- \$10 million for Greenspace/Trail Development and \$1.9 Million for deferred maintenance project.
- Hoping to take SPLOST funds and leverage with partnerships to augment projects
- Priorities for funding:
 - Signage/Universal branding (new logo)
 - Beautification of entrances to facilities/parks
- Areas needing to be addressed:
 - Ball park fencing
 - Rest rooms (replaced)
 - Drainage
 - Turf management

Security In The Parks:

- Need to think about ways of improving security in our parks
- Independence Park was specifically discussed:
 - No longer an athletic park and visibility is limited for security
 - The make-up of the community in the area has changed
 - Suggestions: Change facilities in the park to reflect the current make-up of the community
Request assistance from Riverdale Police Department to address security concerns

Recap - 2010 Focus Measurements

Greenspace Acquisition – Development of the trail system, connecting Virginia Stephens property with other trail components – measurements will be provided as project advances

Deferred Maintenance -- Board of Commissioner will make a determination on priorities for SPLOST funds

Partnerships – Handled through the Marketing and Sales Unit, will be updated in the quarterly reports

Capital Improvements – Once the project module has been finalized, Director Stanford will provide an update to the Advisory Board

Quarterly Reports – Director Stanford will provide to the Board beginning in April, 2010

Opening Board Meetings To The Public (Transparency)

Advisory Board will hold quarterly meetings (closed)

Two, semi-annual public meetings will be conducted by the Advisory Board (open/advertised)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm