

Reading Recreation Commission
7:10PM
3rd & Spruce Recreation Center
Report from April 10, 2018 Workshop

The April 10, 2018 regular meeting was not held because four of the eight board members were absent. Therefore, there wasn't a quorum. The following members were absent: Bernardo Carbajal, Luke Schultz, Brian Twyman & Patricia Wright. A workshop was held to update the board members that were in attendance: Christopher Celmer, Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, Joseph Kelleher & Donald Taddei, Jr. (via phone conference)

The Reading Recreation Commission workshop was called to order on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7:10PM by Donald Taddei Jr.

The board performed the Pledge of the Allegiance and Daphne took the roll call of the members. There were four of the eight board members present and they included Christopher Celmer, Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, Joseph Kelleher, Donald Taddei, Jr. The following board members were absent: Bernardo Carbajal, Luke Schultz, Brian Twyman & Patricia Wright. Staff in attendance: Daphne Klahr, Executive Director, and Rebecca Swoyer, Business Manager (recording secretary).

Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz asked if Daphne was made aware of what the City plans are. She said it is the year of the parks and playgrounds. Daphne stated she is aware that the City applied for grants for 6th & Amity and Baer Park. Those parks would get water features, fencing & playground amenities. Marcia stated that there was money set aside for the improvements from the budget. The City asked Daphne for a list of the parks that needed improvement but she did not see the final list. Everything was going through Ralph Johnson at Reading Public Works. Daphne will send an e-mail to Cindy and asked if she can send us the list of parks that are in the budget and if she receives it back she will forward to the board members.

There was a discussion about board participation. Daphne stated she sends the e-mail out asking to be notified if a member cannot attend but she does not receive responses. Daphne stated that we still have 2 City vacancies on the board which have not been filled for all of 2017 & so far 2018. We also have 1 School District vacancy. Chris and Daphne discussed looking at the composition of the board and look at changing the by-laws because we have people interested on being our board that would be great assets to us but our by-laws are so restrictive that we cannot have anybody on the board that is not a city resident unless they work for the city or school district and that is just one position. Daphne will work on some proposed by-laws changes. If that is approved by the board it would have to go to city council and the school board.

New Business

There was no new business.

Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2018 meetings will be reviewed and approved at the June 12, 2018 board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report will be presented at the June 12, 2018 board meeting. Daphne reported that we are waiting on the 2nd quarter payments for the City and Reading School District.

Old Business

Daphne provided an update on the sensitive issue with a patron of Schlegel park pool. The insurance company does not have an answer. Currently, there is no case law precedent to review. The lawyer said that we have to follow local ordinance which the City requires that we do not discriminate on sexual or gender identity. Daphne did reach out to the LGBT Center of Reading and spoke to Jocelyn Young. We are going to have a training on May 9th from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Daphne is going to invite our attorney to be at the training to see what they have to say. In the meantime, Daphne did reach out to Reading Public Works. They are going to look at the site to see if there are

any modifications we can make and separate out some space for minors only. Ralph Johnson was going to talk to JD about this.

Daphne is waiting to get an answer from the insurance company and the attorney so she can present everything at once to Ralph & JD.

Executive Director's Report

Daphne gave a verbal Executive Director's report for April 2018

Highlights:

1. RRC won 2 State awards for our gardening program Seeds to Sprout Program & Pizza, Paint & Turtles Program which is our partnership with the Reading Public Museum. Daphne passed around the awards and a picture of Heather and Adonis accepting the awards. Christopher Celmer made note that Adonis cleans up very nice.
2. Daphne and Ronda Morrison attended the Friends of Reading Hospital event at Canal Street on March 23rd to highlight the program the hospital has funded for us which includes the fresh fruit program for children and our vans. It was a great event! They had big signs and pictures of the RRC with our mission and information on the signs. It was really neat!
3. Daphne and Heather Boyer presented our Girls Leadership Program to the Power of the Purse committee on March 26th. We will hear from them in early April if we get a grant award.
4. Daphne is meeting with New Journey next week. They are a soup kitchen on South 6th Street. We are looking at collaborating and possibly doing some kind of joint program together.
5. We are going to be collaborating with the Children's Home of Reading on a couple of projects with Girls Leadership. We are going to do a movie night collaboration with them.
6. This Friday, April 13th we have our hoagie sale. We have orders for approximately 850 hoagies. We are making extra hoagies to sell. We have enough to make 900 hoagies.
7. We have our LGBT training on May 9th
8. Daphne spoke on the unfortunate passing of Jim Washington on April 2nd. His service was very nice. Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz asked if there is a way for our facilities to bear his name. Daphne stated that the RRC would like to name our youth scholarship fund after Jim. She stated that it would not cost us any money to do this. We can put it on our website as a tab with his picture and nice words with all his service provided while on our board. She stated that we have received close to \$500.00 in donations in his memory. The board thought that was a great idea. Matt Lubas and Daphne spoke about gathering a group to go up to Jim's house and clean up the outside. COR would like to be able to support Tyler. Daphne spoke to Jim's wife and she was agreeable to that. Christopher Celmer asked to make this an agenda item for our June board meeting.
9. Daphne asked if the board members saw Casandra Noray from COR Tennis spotlighted in the Reading Eagle. She is a 3rd & Spruce kid and is working for us now. It was very nice to see her highlighted!

Adjournment

The workshop began at 7:10PM and ended at 7:37PM.

Upcoming meetings:

August Recreation Commission Meeting – Tuesday, August 14th at 7:00PM, 3rd & Spruce Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Swoyer
Recording Secretary