



Oconee County Parks & Recreation

Lisa Davol, Director

Board of Commissioners

John Daniell, Chairman
Mark Thomas, Post 1
Chuck Horton, Post 2
W. E. "Bubber" Wilkes, Post 3
Mark Saxon, Post 4

Citizens Advisory Committee on Recreation Affairs Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2018

Members Present: Richard Ashmore, Jeanne Barsanti, DeeDee Gaines, Bill Gohdes, Ravneet Julka, Jonathan King, Dan Magee

Members Absent: Leslie Hunsinger, Dale Mitchell

Staff: Lisa D. Davol, Whitney Sperlik

Guests: None

BOC: Chairman Daniell

Press: None

Minutes:

1. The Recreation Committee convened the regular meeting at Oconee Veterans Park. DeeDee Gaines called the meeting to order.
2. Richard Ashmore made a motion to approve the agenda. Jonathan King seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
3. Richard Ashmore made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2017 Recreation Affairs Committee meeting. Jonathan King provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Lisa Davol introduced Brent Sexton, new Recreation Manager, and Tony Lathrup, new role as Parks Manager, to the committee.
5. Oconee County Planning and Code Representative. Sandy Weinel, OC Planning and Code Assistant Director, attended the meeting and discussed topics related to parks, pathways and greenspace. Weinel discussed the County Comprehensive Plan update, Unified Development Code and Safe Routes to Schools. Weinel informed group of development requirements with sidewalks and greenspace and encourage committee members to provide feedback for the upcoming UDC update. Bill Ghodes asked about setting aside greenspace in relation to development. DeeDee Gaines recommended sidewalk and crosswalk around OCHS and Market Center. Dan Magee mentioned the recent fast food development in that area that the school system had recommended not to approve. Ravneet Julka inquired about a pathway master plan for the future and Weinel stated that could be addressed in an overlay district. Dan Magee mentioned the Firefly Trail development in Athens-Oglethorpe. Jeanne Barsanti made a comment regarding Athens-Clarke County TSPLOST.
6. Whitney Sperlik provided winter program updates, registration numbers (over 1,000 basketball participants again this year), current staff openings and park events held. DeeDee Gaines requested that the department amp up our social media promotions and stated her willingness to assist in this area.



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7. Lisa Davol provided park updates, to include the current status of the OVP Multi-Field Expansion Project, Oconee 4th of July Fireworks rebranding, Heritage Park Eagle Scout project, Capitol Reserve Study underway, FY19 budget process starting and OCHS turf fields. Ravneet inquired about whether the parking lot for the new fields would have one or two entrance/exits. Davol confirmed there are 2 in the plan. Whitney Sperlik mentioned the Oconee Sheriff's Office assistance with an event for the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner to be held at Heritage Park on April 14.
8. Elect officers for 2018. Richard Ashmore nominated Leslie Hunsinger as Chair of Recreation Advisory Committee. DeeDee Gaines seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Richard Ashmore made a motion to nominate DeeDee Gaines as Vice Chair of the committee. Jeanne Barsanti seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
9. Other Business, if needed. Richard Ashmore stated that the BOC had said that after the 3 OVP multi-purpose fields were complete that they would work on a master plan for the park system. Dan Magee stated that 1,000 residential developments in Park Side would need a traffic congestion mitigation plan. Ravneet Julka asked if a playground would be between the new fields and soccer fields. Davol stated that there was a plan to place a playground in that location in addition to a picnic shelter, dependent on funding. Jeanne Barsanti reminded the group that there will be a Town Hall meeting next Tuesday at 6 pm at OVP. DeeDee Gaines informed the group that an Oconee Parks Foundation was being developed with board members: DeeDee Gaines, Jonathan King, Ravneet Julka, Bill Ghodes and Jeff Christie. Gaines stated that they are working on the foundation by-laws. Jonathan King said there are grant opportunities they could pursue once the group is established. DeeDee Gaines stated that they will need \$600-\$800 to complete the 5013c process for the foundation. Dan Magee suggested using gofundme to raise the funds. DeeDee reminded staff of the need for a message board and benches at the dog park.
10. Public Comments: None.
11. Motion to adjourn was made by Richard Ashmore. Ravneet Julka provided a second. Motion approved to adjourn.

Next RAC Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 5 pm at Oconee Veterans Park – Community Center.

Recording Secretary: Lisa D. Davol

Date: 1/16/2018