

MINUTES

Parks and Recreation Commission of the Augusta County Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Sally Williams, Member
Ernie Landes, Member
Leon Bartley, Member
Samantha Bosserman, Member
Larry Curry, Chair

ABSENT: Steve Morelli, Member
Ronnie Ritchie, Member
Kirk Barley, Vice Chair

1. Call to Order

Mr. Curry called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Ernie Landes moved to authorize Samantha Bosserman to participate in the meeting remotely in accordance with the adopted Electronic Meeting Policy. Mrs. Bosserman is out of town for her job and could not attend in person.

Leon Bartley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Comments by the Public

Mr. Jack Greenmun and Mr. Lou Gage were in attendance representing the Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club.

2.1 Presentation by Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club

Mr. Greenmun stated a private donor approached the Ruritan Club about improvements to Schneider Park. The private donor was looking to help the community of Stuarts Draft and thought improving Schneider Park would be a good way. The Ruritan Club runs and maintains Schneider Park. The Ruritan Club submitted a Matching Grant request to help with the improvements. The Matching Grant request is for the maximum amount awarded of \$36,464. The improvements to be made to the park are listed on the attached budget sheets. Some of those improvements include playground apparatus, additional playground equipment, benches, tables, parking lot improvements, park entrance sign, and landscaping. Mr. Greenmun shared with the Commission this money and approval of the grant will add the much needed improvements to the park. He stated the Ruritans budget is constantly changing. He stated the land is in 2 different deeds totally 12.7 acres. He stated there are more improvements the Ruritans would like to see at Schneider park such as LED lights and possibly pickleball courts.

Mr. Greenmun asked Mr. Wells if any grant money had been awarded for Schneider Park since Mr. Wells took over as Director. Mr. Wells stated one had been awarded but that project was then cancelled by the Club because everything got cancelled.

Mr. Greenmun stated a good deal of money has been awarded in grant money to Schneider Park going back to the 80's. Mr. Landes asked Mr. Greenmun how many members the Ruritan Club currently has. Mr. Greenmun stated about 20 members. Mr. Landes asked Mr. Greenmun if the Ruritans run and maintain Schneider Park. Mr. Greenmun said they do. He further stated 4 -5 projects have been completed by the Ruritans in the past year.

Mr. Wells stated that since 1985 he can see roughly \$20,000 to \$22,000 has been awarded to the Ruritans through grants. Mr. Greenmun stated if we were to look farther into it we would probably see closer to \$100,000 has gone in to the park through grants.

Mr. Wells stated for clarification the project at Schneider Park has already been started due to the private donor having funds that needed to be expended by the end of the year. He shared that this is permissible based on precedent.

Mr. Wells further clarified that the two parcels of land have a reversion clause and both deeds are written up differently. He stated the Commission does not need to worry about the verbiage in the deeds themselves as those details will be worked out between the County Attorney, Board of Supervisors, and current deed holder. He stated the Commission can make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors either in favor or not in favor of the grant request.

Mr. Greenmun stated if any of the Commission members are interested in looking at the property to let him know. The Commission members informed Mr. Greenmun they had been to view the property recently and were familiar with it.

Mr. Curry asked how much the grant proposal is for. Mr. Wells stated \$36,464, which is the maximum amount that can be awarded. Mr. Greenmun stated the hope is for the project to be completed by June 2022.

[Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club Schneider Park Matching Grant Application.pdf](#)

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1 October 2021 minutes for approval

No corrections to the minutes were needed. [October 2021 minutes.pdf](#)

Leon Bartley moved to approve October 2021 minutes.

Sally Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report

4.1 October 2021 Treasurer's report

Mr. Wells presented the October Treasurer's report as written. No questions or comments.

[2021 OCTOBER Treasurers report.pdf](#)

5. Director's Report

5.1 October 2021 Director's report

Mr. Wells highlighted the Director's report. There were no questions or comments. [October 2021 dir's report.pdf](#)

6. Matters to be presented by the Commission

No Matters to be presented by the Commission.

7. Matters to be presented by Staff

No Matters to be presented by Staff.

8. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

9. New Business

9.1 Consideration of Recreation Matching Grant Application.

Applicant is Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club for new playground and other improvements at Schneider Park.

Mr. Wells informed the Commission the Matching Grant application packet was complete and met all the requirements. The total amount requested is \$36,464. He stated he will inform the Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club of comments made from the Admin Review process. Mr. Wells stated the Commission may make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors showing their support or opposition. Mr. Wells informed the Commission he had been in touch with Mr. K Barley who wished to convey his support of the grant approval.

Mrs. Bosserman asked if there was money available to use so it would not have to be pulled from something else. Mr. Wells stated that all districts have money in their accounts to potentially contribute to the grant.

Sally Williams moved to recommend for approval the Matching Grant application submitted by the Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club, as requested.

Samantha Bosserman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

10. Announcement of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Mr. Curry announced the next meeting to take place on December 15, 2021 at 7pm at the Government Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm

Sally Williams moved to adjourn .

Leon Bartley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

