

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
OLD ARMORY COMMUNITY CENTER
500 S. JOHNSON STREET
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112**

**TUESDAY, JULY 20 2021
12:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

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- Item 1.** Approval of Minutes – April 20, 2021
- Item 2.** Discussion of Regular Meeting Time
- Item 3.** General Program and Project Updates
- Item 4.** Other Business

ATTENTION COMMISSION MEMBERS: Please contact Angie Sustar at asustar@monroenc.org or 704-282-4651 to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 20, 2021
MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in the Old Armory Community Center at 500 S. Johnson Street, Monroe, North Carolina at 12:00 Noon on April 20, 2020.

Present: Chairman Dan Shive, Vice Chairman Moya Saltzgaber, Commission Members, Rhonda Griffin (left at 1:09pm), Tiffany Wilson and John Thomasson

Absent: Debbie Dillion

Staff Present: Tonya Edwards, Ryan Jones, Darren Baucom, Fred Baber, Rae Moore, and Angie Sustar

Chairman Shive opened meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2021

Vice Chairman Saltzgaber moved to approve the Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of February 16, 2021.

Member Tiffany Wilson seconded the motion, which unanimously passed with the following votes:

AYES: Chairman Shive, Vice Chairman Saltzgaber, Members Thomasson, Wilson, and Griffin

NAYS: None

Item No. 2. Introduction of Tony Street, Head Golf Professional MCC

Parks and Recreation Director Tonya Edwards moved this Item to next month's meeting due to Tony being unavailable to attend this meeting

Item No. 3. MAFC COVID-19 Financial Impacts & Current Operational Status Presentation

Ms. Edwards advised that at the City Council's Strategic Meeting on April 13, staff provided a presentation updating Council on the COVID-19 financial impacts to the Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center, the current operational plans, the strategies that have been put in place to reduce costs, and fiscal year 2022 revenue projects.

Ms. Edwards advised that staff wanted to share this presentation with the Recreation Commission members as well, in an effort for consistent messaging in regards to the Monroe Aquatic and Fitness Center operations for both our MAFC members and citizens.

MAFC Interim Director Fred Baber provided the presentation and shared that this information provided is M a snap shot of where we started, where we were in the middle, and where we are going. Discussion followed the presentation.

Item No. 4. General Program / Project Updates

Athletics:

Athletic and Special Events Coordinator Rae Moore provided updates on athletic programs currently being offered. Youth baseball season is nearing completion with final games scheduled next week. We have 115 participants registered for Youth Track and the first meet is scheduled for May 1st. Preparations are underway for summer sport camps and clinics.

Recreation:

Recreation Centers and Program Operations Director Ryan Jones provided a brief update on programs and events. Mr. Jones advised that staff has been busy planning to provide options for special events such as Music On Main scheduled to kick off in June. Also, in partnership with Trinity Wellness, a modified Juneteenth event is planned for June 19th. At this time, the event is scheduled to be held in a drive-through format. Preparations are underway and registration is taking place for summer camps.

Member Wilson asked why there were restrictions for Music On Main. Mr. Jones advised that mass gathering restrictions are still in effect. He stated that staff continues to work to develop creative options in an effort to offer special events to the residents while adhering to restrictions that are in place.

Member Wilson questioned as to why the Juneteenth event in Monroe was being held as a drive-through when the Marshville's Juneteenth event was not being held as a drive-through. Ms. Edwards advised that we are required to follow the mass gathering guidelines currently in place which at this time is set at a max. outdoor capacity of 100. Staff was not familiar with details of the Marshville event and could not speak to why it was being offered in the manner suggested.

Member Wilson asked if there would be a Fourth of July event. Ms. Edwards advised that staff is planning a Fourth of July event, but staff is uncertain as to how it will be presented which will be contingent on the requirements set forth in the Executive Order in effect at the time of this event. She advised that plans are to offer events based on the guidelines set forth by the governor, as well as guidelines set forth by the CDC, Department of Health and Human Services and our local Health Department.

Chairman Shive asked Mr. Jones to repeat the information he shared on Music On Main. Member Thomasson stated that he was going to ask as well because he thought he had seen bands advertised. Ms. Edwards advised that currently the Music On Main event is being advertised; however as it stands today, it may be a modified event. She advised that staff is working on options should the current restrictions stay in place past the first of June. She advised that staff is looking at alternative ways of delivering that series without having to cancel. Mr. Jones shared that the April and May events were moved to October and November to have a better chance of those concerts taking place.

Chairman Shive voiced his frustration with event restrictions.

Member Wilson stated that arenas are opening up for concerts. Ms. Edwards advised that as long as the

arenas stay within the set capacity guidelines of the governor's current orders, events can be held.

Ms. Edwards advised that the Monroe Country Club is now open for rentals at 50% capacity (100) and there are additional Covid-19 guidelines in place

Member Wilson asked that staff look into Coding and STEAM camps. Mr. Jones advised that a vocational type of STEAM camp will be offered at all of the community centers this summer. He stated that in prior summers Coding and Robotics summer camps have been offered.

Parks Maintenance:

Parks Maintenance Superintendent Darren Baucom provided an update on projects that are currently underway. He advised that the banners, bollards, park benches, and trash receptacles have been installed along the MAFC – PWAC Greenway Connector. The kiosk and kiosk maps will be installed as soon as they arrive. The project to replace and repair fencing at the Dickerson Ballfield will begin soon.

Ms. Edwards advised that a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the MAFC – PWAC Greenway Connector will be scheduled once the Kiosk maps are installed.

Ms. Edwards stated that the United Senior Games are being held in person this year and provided an update on the event. There are approximately 80 participants registered for this program

Ms. Edwards advised that the kick-off meeting with the consultant to start work on the final design for the Belk Tonawanda Park Expansion/Renovation Phase I-B project is scheduled for tomorrow. This will be the first step in the process to get the s Bid documents prepared for the construction of this project

Member Wilson asked if the soccer field across from J Ray Shute belonged to the City. Ms. Edwards advised the fields belong to Union County Public Schools.

Vice Chairman Saltzgaber asked for an update on the senior center. Tonya advised that most recent information that she had received was that all the environmental information had been received and the architects were completing the bid documents and hopefully it would be put out for bidding soon.

Vice Chairman Saltzgaber asked for an update on the MAFC pool liner. Ms. Edwards advised that the repair had been completed but there continues to be a problem with wrinkles in the liner. A third party contractor was brought in to perform additional testing of the liner and circulation system to rule out any issues other than a leak in the liner. All reports from this testing has been provided to RenoSys the company that installed the liner along with Aquatic Resources who was the general contractor on this project.

Member Wilson made the suggestion to host a swim tournament at the pool to provide revenue. Staff indicated that they could possibly explore this idea in the future.

Chairman Shive expressed his appreciation and commended Staff for their efforts and the work they have done during the COVID-19 crisis. Ms. Edwards commended Mr. Jones and Mr. Baber for their work during this time. She commended Mr. Jones for his diligent work department wide in providing guidance in facilitating the development of all COVID-19 protocols and SOP's.

Commission Member Wilson stated that she has received complaints in regards to the restroom facilities at the Winchester Gym in comparison other Recreation Centers. Ms. Edwards responded that new restroom facilities were added to the Winchester Gym several years ago. Mr. Jones added that the new restrooms and fitness room are located in the rear of the gym. Ms. Wilson stated that no one knows where the new restrooms are located. Mr. Jones said that he would make sure clear signage is installed at this location to better inform participants.

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Saltzgaber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Thomasson seconded the motion, which unanimously passed with the following votes:

AYES: Chairman Shive, Vice Chairman Saltzgaber, Member Wilson, Thomasson

NAYS: None