

City of Charlottesville
Department of Parks and Recreation
Post Office Box 911
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
434-970-3260



"A World Class City"

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA February 16, 2011

WELCOME OF NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – January 19, 2011 Advisory Board Meeting

INFORMATION ITEMS

- I-1 Smith Aquatic & Fitness Center – Attendance Report
- I-2 YMCA at McIntire Park – Status Update
- I-3 Washington Park Pool Improvements – Construction Update
- I-4 McGuffey Park Drainage Repairs – Construction Update
- I-5 Jefferson School / Carver Recreation Center Renovations
- I-6 Scholarship Program Participation Update
- I-7 Plaque at Tonsler Recreation Center – In Honor of Benjamin Tonsler

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

BOARD MATTERS

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT

City of Charlottesville
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Agenda Item
February 16, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Adoption of Minutes – January 19, 2011 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

ACTION REQUIRED:

Advisory Board adoption of the minutes of the January 19, 2011 meeting.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Minutes of January 19, 2011 meeting.

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
January 19, 2011**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at Tonsler Park Recreation Center. Members present were: Byron Brown, Scott Brown, John Kammauff, Sean McCord, Jennifer McKeever, Ned Michie and Dan Rosensweig. .

Members absent: John Foster

Staff: Brian Daly, Doug Ehman

Minutes:

➤ **Motion:**

Scott Brown made a motion to approve minutes, second by Sean McCord, motion was unanimously approved

Elections:

➤ Chairman nominations: Jennifer McKeever

➤ **Motion:**

- Sean McCord made a motion to nominate Jennifer McKeever for Chairman, second by Ned Michie, motion was unanimously approved

➤ Vice Chairman nominations: Sean McCord, Scott Brown

Vice Chairman candidates were asked to give board members a statement about their nomination for Vice Chairman:

- Sean McCord stated that he had learned today that he was renamed to the Advisory Board and was looking forward to the next 3 years, and would be happy to serve in an administrative capacity.
- Scott Brown stated that he had served as Chairman for 5 years, and since he has been retired he has spent much time attending Parks & Recreation events and would continue in the future.
- Board members made a verbal ballot: Sean McCord was favored by 4-2 to Scott Brown.

Resolution:

- A resolution was presented to thank Ken Ballard for his years of service to the Advisory Board.

Motion:

- A motion was made by Dan Rosensweig to accept the resolution as written, second by Ned Michie, motion was unanimously approved.

Adjustment of Board Calendar

- Brian Daly stated the board's regular March meeting was scheduled for March 19 but that the City's budget work sessions were also scheduled for this week and that staff would need to be in attendance. He stated that there were options for the March meeting: could send another staff member to the Advisory Board meeting, board members could attend budget work session, or they could set another date. He noted that he did not expect any major action items for March.
- Dan Rosensweig asked about the public meeting by City Council meeting for the CIP projects and felt that Sean McCord and/or Jennifer McKeever should be in attendance. Doug Ehman replied that the work session was scheduled for March 23 and that the first work session was to review the CIP & general fund.
- Dan Rosensweig felt that staff should focus on the budget.

Motion:

- Dan Rosensweig made a motion to cancel the March, 2011 meeting, and have the option that if the budget meeting is necessary, notification would be made to board members, second by Ned Michie, motion was unanimously approved.

Smith Aquatic & Fitness Center

- Brian Daly reviewed the current attendance #'s and stated that the facility was very busy. He stated the following:
 - Access pass visits had doubled in the last month and was very pleased because monthly access passes are recurring revenue and will help financially.
 - Revenue estimates were looking on target
 - Water temperature has been corrected
 - Competitive pool – 82-84 degrees, leisure pool 88-89 degrees
 - Ned Michie asked about day time use during the week @ the facility, and stated that they were interested in getting Buford school students in the facility for gym classes and asked if Brian thought it would be a possibility, Brian Daly replied that they would have to program them in the schedule. Board members thought it would be good idea to bring this program back, and stated that they used to have a similar program @ Walker but was cut for budget reasons.
 - John Kammauff asked about group rate for sports teams.
 - Jennifer McKeever asked about the chlorine level @ Smith, reported that her sons had experienced burning eyes and asked if there might be a PH issue. Doug Ehman replied that it takes about 90 days for a new pool to adapt, but will check with staff on the issue.
 - Jennifer McKeever asked about seating @ the pool area, stated that there were benches presently there but was looking for a more permanent solution, Brian Daly replied that bleachers had been ordered and would be delivered soon.

YMCA @ McIntire Park

- Brian Daly stated that he had a conversation with the City Attorney concerning the YMCA case and reported that they are waiting to hear from the lawyers from ACAC to see when available to set court date.
- YMCA has financing in place for project

Carver Center

- Brian Daly reported that the Carver Center project proposed is within budget. Jennifer McKeever asked what the completion date was. Brian Daly replied 15 months contingent on hidden conditions being found in the building.
- Brian Daly reported that staff completed removing everything out of Carver Center by the end of December. Dan asked where programming is happening now, Brian Daly replied at Key, Tonsler and Crow Centers, and that programming will be a little smaller during the Carver construction period.

Chairman's Matters

- Jennifer McKeever thanked Doug Ehman for supporting Brian Daly and the Advisory Board with information.

- Jennifer McKeever stated that her kids were huge fans of the roller skating program at the Key Center.
- Jennifer McKeever asked for an update on the Azalea Park project, Brian Daly replied that they had to get surveys done, one is back the other due back by end of month. Some parts of the project will be done in house and without using capital funding. Money has been allocated for project: \$625,000 for FY12, Planning Commission shifted funds out to FY 13-14.

Board Matters

- Sean McCord welcomed the Cub Scout that was sitting in on the meeting, who was there to earn a badge.
- Sean McCord reported that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has two pages on the City's website and should be corrected.
- Sean McCord asked about the spam messages that Advisory Board members have been receiving from having the City e-mail address for the Advisory Board.
- John Kammauff reported that he was with a group of kids at Buford for a wrestling match and that there was a nice new mat there which was bigger than the Lane mat, also asked if there were reserved parking for the Smith facility and the Boys & Girls Club.
- John Kammauff asked how Forest Hills held up this summer, Brian Daly replied that there were a few bugs to work out, was some vandalism on the building, and that the slippery surface had been resolved. Also reported that the upper shelter will be set up to be reserved this summer.

Directors Matters

- Brian Daly stated that he was notified today that Sean McCord & John Kammauff were reappointed and that two new members were also appointed.
- Brian Daly reported that they have met with the Dogwood Festival members and have set dates for the carnival and reported that the dates will be shorter this year, April 4-17, with the parade held on April 16. Also stated that the carnival generates the funds to run the carnival.
- Sean McCord asked if there were plans to open the McIntire wading pool this year, Brian Daly replied that there are plans to open it.

Closed Session

➤ **Motion:**

- A motion was made by Dan Rosensweig to go into closed session, second by Byron Brown, motion was unanimously approved.

➤ **Motion:**

- A motion was made by Jennifer McKeever to come out of closed session, second by Dan Rosensweig, motion was unanimously approved.

➤ **Motion:**

- A motion was made by Scott Brown to adjourn the meeting, second by Dan Rosensweig, motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Daly
Secretary to the Advisory Board

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INFORMATION – 1

Smith Aquatic and Fitness Center – Attendance Report

Smith AFC Attendance: October 22, 2010 through February 13, 2011

Access Passes Sold	689
Access Pass Visitation	11,960
Daily Admissions	4,583
Guest Passes	431
Preview Weekend	1,075
Total Visits	18,094
Total Revenue	111,982



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INFORMATION – 2

YMCA at McIntire Park –Court Status Update

The City has a court date of April 1, 2011 to hear the case against the City regarding the land lease in McIntire Park to the YMCA.

The YMCA has directed their architect to prepare bid packages for the facility ready to be advertised on March 1, 2011, with bids due back on March 31. According to the Executive Director of the YMCA, it is the YMCA's intention to finalize contracts and financing details in April and begin construction in May of 2011.

INFORMATION – 3

Washington Park Pool Improvements – Construction Update

Improvements to the structural shell of the Washington Park Pool began the week of September 13, 2010. Construction is complete. Pool will open on time for Memorial Day weekend, 2011.

Expanded Pool Deck



New Slide



Seat Wall Beneath Slide



View From Top of Slide



INFORMATION – 4

McGuffey Park Drainage Improvements – Construction Update

The original scope of work included improvements to the southeast stairs, installation of a limited irrigation system on the east flower bed and main lawn, improvements to the playground under drain system and providing a new play structure. The new play structure has replaced the sand box and metal slide. Additional work performed as a result of unseen conditions prior to commencement of the project include:

- Replacement of the failed under drain system under the playground area which resulted in failure of the fall attenuation material
- Removal of rotted granite and installation of pavers in picnic table area to resolved issues with the trench drain system
- Upgrading the southeast stair drain system to resolve a defect in design and increase pipe capacity to avoid potential clogging from infiltration..

Construction is 97% complete with the contractor's work complete. Components remaining include the testing and acceptance of irrigation system and sodding of the area inside the walkway, around the new drainage structure by the stairs and a 7' band along the sidewalk underneath the cherries after the irrigation system is accepted. Irrigation system acceptance and sodding is scheduled for late March/early April. The areas to be sodded have been seeded with an annual rye/ fescue blend as an interim measure. The park remains open until sodding occurs and then those areas will be closed for approximately 30 days to permit the sod to root. The tower structure is currently closed due to vandalism and repair parts.

New Preschool Play Unit



New Pavers / Trench Drain



Southeast Stair Drainage



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INFORMATION – 5

Jefferson School / Carver Recreation Center Renovations Update

On February 7, 2011, City Council approved the lease for the Carver Recreation Center as part of the Jefferson School renovations. The Jefferson School Partnership and City Attorney's staff are now finalizing the transfer of the property to the Partnership, with construction anticipated to begin in late March. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held for the project, tentatively scheduled for March 22, 2011.

INFORMATION – 6

Scholarship Program Participation Update

Below is a table representing the current level of participation in the scholarship program. To date, staff has received 1 (one) request to appeal due to extenuating circumstances, which was granted.

25%	1
50%	109
75%	9
90%	60
TOTAL	179

INFORMATION – 7

Plaque at Tonsler Recreation Center – In Honor of Benjamin Tonsler

In May of 2010, a portrait of Benjamin Tonsler done by Charlottesville artist Franklin Walker, was unveiled in the Tonsler Recreation Center. Mr. Tonsler was a former principal at the Jefferson Graded School and the namesake of Tonsler Park. At the request of several residents, staff has worked with Mr. Tonsler's family to install a plaque in the center highlighting Mr. Tonsler's life and contributions to the community. Below is the draft text of the plaque, as provided by the family.



DRAFT TEXT OF PLAQUE TO BE INSTALLED NEAR PORTRAIT

Benjamin E. Tonsler

Benjamin E. Tonsler, the educator, was born into slavery in Albemarle County, Virginia, April 2, 1854. At an early age he learned to read and write. After emancipation, he attended the Freedmen's Bureau School, on the site of the Delevan Confederate Hospital, near the railroad tracks at 7th Street South West. Anna Gardner, a northerner from Nantucket, Rhode Island was the teacher.

Upon the recommendations of Philena Carlin, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, a northern teacher in The Jefferson School for the Colored people, near the railroad tracks, he attended Hampton Institute/University. There he met Booker T. Washington. Years later, Benjamin Tonsler was visited at his home in Charlottesville by Booker T. Washington on his way to accept the position of principal at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.

From 1894-1917, he was the principal of Old Jefferson Colored Graded School, 4th street north west. During his tenure at Jefferson he mentored those students who showed promise of being good teachers after completing the eighth grade. Benjamin E. Tonsler, the educator is remembered for his diligence in collecting books and asking for money to buy school supplies to provide the best education for his students. He is also well known for his musical ability and the home he built for his wife Fanny Gildersleeve Tonsler on a certain lot of land purchased from Mary and John Fry in 1877. The house named, "Castle Hill" as recalled, by his grandson Elmer

“Son” Sampson still stands at 327 Sixth Street, South West. The home privately owned is of historical significance to the City of Charlottesville, Virginia.

The grandchildren of Benjamin E. and Fannie Tonsler including The Negro Recreation Board of 1947 comprised of Professor B. E. Tonsler’s students and the teachers of the Old Jefferson Colored Graded School and The New Jefferson Colored High School fulfilled their vision of creating a park for Negro families on 5th Street South West, Charlottesville, Virginia. Their park was name to honor the legacy of the musician, mentor, and educator Benjamin E. Tonsler.

Benjamin Tonsler died on March 6, 1917 at age 63. He is buried at [Oakwood Cemetery](#) next to his wife, Fannie Gildersleeve Tonsler. The alumni of Jefferson Graded School and friends erected his tombstone in a memorial service that drew a crowd of several hundred people, both African American and White.