Smithfield Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting January 21, 2014

The Smithfield Recreation Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. at Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center.

Members Present: Angela Rabil Daniel Sanders

Jackie Bryant Robbie Parker

New HS Representatives: Callie Britt

Members Absent: Richard Knight Andy Moore

David Lasater Clayton Narron Lyn Andrews Earl Marrett Scott Wright Chris Howell

Staff Present: Tim Johnson, Director

Gary Johnson, Assistant Director

Dale Ham, SRAC Director

Tiffany Pearson, Recreation Supervisor Laura Crumpler, Aquatics Supervisor

Kristin Sasser, Recreation Center Supervisor

Staff Absent: Dennis Tyner, Maintenance Supervisor

Jon Moore, Athletic Programs Supervisor

Newest "Bryant-Marett" inductee (December meeting) – Tim welcomed everyone to the meeting, and began by letting them know, if they weren't present at the December meeting, that Paul Embler was the 2013 Bryant-Marett winner. For anyone who may not know Paul, he currently works for the Town, but designed the community park while working for an engineering firm years ago. Paul has been instrumental in the design of the community park, and put many hours of his own time working on it. His experience and expertise has saved the town a lot of money.

<u>Improve Services</u> – Tim told the group of a recent initiative to improve services... through operations/programs; public education/public relations; and employee morale which has been initiated by the Town Manager. P&R had started looking at some of this before the initiative, but as items are finalized we will get this information to the Board.

<u>Grants from JCVB</u> – We have received two grants from the JCVB, totaling \$20,000. The first, a Capital Improvement Grant, will help replace scoreboards at the Community Park and Civitan field. (There is an additional \$10k from Pepsi, which will help with these as well.) The second, from the Hotel-Motel tax, will go to the Town along with monies raised by Friends of the Park. This year, we should turn in between \$50-60k to the Town.

JCVB / Master Plan – The JCVB is taking bids to have a county-wide Master Plan done. The Master Plan will show what recreational needs there are in the county, and where facilities are needed. Tim said JCVB's objective in doing the plan is to try and get more events to come to the County. Ball Tournaments, Basketball Tournaments, etc. all bring a lot of income into the County. The Visitors Bureau will take bids from 3 companies. Should be next spring before the Plan is completed.

<u>After School Program</u> - Tim said that Kristin and Tiffany are currently working on a budget for a proposed After School Program to start in the fall. Pros for such a venture are that it would be for a short time period,

and not many supplies would be necessary. We have been told that JCS will deliver kids after school from the closest school – but this needs to be verified.

Update on "Partnership to Build a Miracle" project —Town of Smithfield is applying for a grant from the State, which is due at the end of the month. We are applying for a \$350,000 grant. We will find out in May if our application is accepted. If awarded, construction would most likely begin around August or September.

Updates from Staff:

Gary Johnson –Basketball underway and going well, with 28 teams participating. For 2014, 14 tournaments are currently on the schedule.

Tiffany Pearson – In December, the Seniors participated with Golden Wishes and made Christmas Cards for two senior center facilities. They also had an outing to the Rudy and their Christmas luncheon. In December, we also had the Grinch Run (Harbor used the toys collected to service 180 families this Christmas), the Tree Lighting, and the Parade.

Kristin Sasser –The new SRAC Booklet is out, which covers activities and events until March. New pottery classes begin this week and are full. Had a track out day camp yesterday, with 8 kids participating. Also, the Track/Trail opened. (The track out campers tried it out yesterday, and had a lot of fun.) An official ribbon cutting will take place when it warms up.

Laura Crumpler – Have held 8 swim meets in the past two months. At the end of February, we will be hosing an Aquatic Workshop – February 26-27.

Dale Ham –Healthway Silver Sneakers has been approved and about 20 people have signed up thus far Next weekend there is a Wheelchair Basketball Tournament, with more events booked in the gym until the end of February.

Our next meeting will be 3/18.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Ashley