

Richland County Recreation Commission
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2016
6:00PM

Commissioners in Attendance:

J. Marie Green, Chair
Barbara Mickens, Vice Chair
Weston A. Furgess, Jr., Secretary
Wilbert Lewis
G. Todd Weiss

RCRC Staff in Attendance:

James Brown, III
Tara Dickerson
Andrea James
David Stringer
Robert Hickman
Tony Cooper
Cornelia Watts

1. Call to Order:

Chair Green called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and welcomed any special guest.

2. Adoption of Agenda: (Action)

Motion to adopt the agenda made by Commissioner Furgess, second by Commissioner Mickens. Motion approved unanimously by all members present: Green, Furgess, Weiss, Mickens and Lewis.

3. Approval of Minutes: (Action)

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2015 Special Call and Regular Board Meetings made by Commissioner Furgess, second by Commissioner Mickens. Minutes approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Furgess, Lewis, Mickens and Weiss.

4. Public Input:

No public input

5. Financial Report: (Information)

Ms. Andrea James reviewed financial reports included in the Board's packet.

Commissioner Weiss questioned damage at LinRick from the flood and Mr. Brown stated that there was no major damage.

Chair Green stated that Commissioner Furgess asked her to attend a Foundation Board meeting Thursday because he is not able to attend and she was under the impression that the Foundation was not functioning with a Board for the last two years and also she understood that the Board of Commissioners appoint two people to serve on the Board.

Ms. James stated that Ms. Green was right and that we had some Board members to leave and the auditor is aware of this and we were not able to have regularly scheduled Board meetings, however in terms of the finances we do have a Board treasurer who oversees the finances. There are two signatures on the check per the bylaws over a certain dollar amount and Lisa Lewis stays in constant contact and can provide any records that you may need in terms of her contact with the Board members that we do have; however this year it is our goal to get the Board up and functioning to make sure we stay in compliance with the Secretary of State and thus far we have remained compliant; the auditor is aware of the Board resignations that we have had. Ms. James stated that yes, there are two Commissioners that have to be appointed to the Board, Mr. Furgess was going to be one and Mr. Latiff use to be the other; we were going to come together and another Commissioner would have to be appointed. Ms. James reported that everything is in order and documented and Lisa Lewis has two new Board members that she has put out to the current Board members to be voted on to come onto the Board so that there can hopefully have a constant quorum. Ms. James stated that the Foundation Board probably would not meet monthly because there is not much activity so the meetings would be quarterly.

Chair Green acknowledged that she understood what Ms. James reported but the Board would like to decide which members will serve on the Foundation Board.

Ms. James stated that this will be fine.

Commissioner Furgess requested the names of the 2 new members coming on Board and he added that he would not be at the meeting Thursday, so please give the names to Chair Green; he also requested names of past and present members.

Chair Green asked Mr. Brown about the alignment of the Foundation on the organizational chart.

Mr. Brown stated that he questioned David about it and it was shown to him on the chart that the Foundation Executive Director is supposed to report to him. Mr. Brown stated that it is confusing because when Mr. Curtis Wilson was here, he was under the impression that the Foundation was reporting to Curtis and there was some discussion between him, Kenya and David to try and find out what happened; we're trying to figure it out. Chair Green asked that Mr. Brown follow-up with her before the meeting on Thursday.

Chair Weiss stated that the Foundation is a 5013C so by definition of laws to attain that number it has to be at arms' length.

Ms. James stated that she is aware of the confusion but since she has been here, the Foundation has not reported to the Executive Director and she does not know if that is the way that it should have been, but she has not been made aware of it.

6. Policy Updates: (Action)

Ms. David Stringer presented four polices for action: Policy No. S-098 Grievance Procedure Under the Americans With Disabilities Act, Policy No. S-005 Accessibility and Non-Discrimination Policy, Policy No. 050 Dress Code and Personal Appearance and Policy No. 070 Employment of Relatives.

Mr. Stringer stated that the first two policies are new and deal with the Americans With Disabilities Act which is something that we have been working on as an Agency the last several months in preparation for the upcoming CAPRA visit which are required under CAPRA but something we need to have in place regardless. Mr. Stringer reported that with the complaint procedure, Sabrina Collins, Risk Manager, has been designated as ADA coordinator where all complaints will go in the future. Mr. Stringer stated that Ms. Collins has been to training and is ready to assume the role.

Motion to approve Policy Numbers S-098 and S-005 as set forth by Staff made by Commissioner Weiss, second by Commissioner Furgess. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Weiss, Furgess, Lewis and Mickens.

Mr. Stringer stated that at the December meeting there was discussion about Policy No. 070 Employment of Relatives and Chair Green asked Mr. Stringer to do a thorough review of Policy. Mr. Stringer stated that the Policy was approved in June but in light of some issues, Staff is recommending some changes to Policy- adding an Addendum that is the actual wording from the South Carolina State Ethics Act and adding in item 4 referral to the website Ethics.sc.gov for additional information on how to file a claim.

Commissioner Lewis stated that one of the things he has asked for, that he would like to have seen on this policy is an opinion from the Ethics Commission about our policy.

Mr. Stringer stated that he did talk to an attorney at the Ethics Commission and this was part of their advice but he does not have it in writing.

Discussion among Commissioners and Staff with input from Mr. Rick Morgan, Attorney regarding Policy No. 070 Employment of Relatives resulted in tabling the Policy.

Motion to table Policy No. 070 Employment of Relatives until such time that we can ask the Ethics Commission to make a ruling, second by Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried 4 to 1 abstained Chair Green.

Commissioner Lewis stated that particularly when you ask that question, the policy would probably be appropriate for everyone except the Executive Director, his issue is with the Executive Director position so make sure they know that this is focus of his concern.

Mr. Stringer presented updates to Policy No. 050 Dress Code and Personal Appearance stating that Chair Green asked that we tighten up the policy by being more detailed.

Commissioner Lewis asked for a summary of what this policy changes from the previous one to how we designate what's appropriate. Tara Dickerson summarized specific changes per the policy. Commissioner Lewis questioned if we anticipate any problems with the policy changes as written interfering with an individual's religious or cultural beliefs. Mr. Stringer and Ms. Dickerson responded with a no.

Motion to approve Policy No. 050 Dress Code and Personal Appearance made by Commissioner Furgess, second by Commissioner Mickens. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Furgess, Mickens, Lewis and Weiss.

7. Bond Construction Update: (Information)

Mr. Tony Cooper reviewed Bond Projects listed on the Bond Construction Updates included in the Board's package.

Chair Green questioned the funding for Royal Pine to be moved to Kelly Mill and Mr. Cooper explained that Councilwoman Julie Ann Dixon approved moving the funds since no land could be located in her District. Chair Green asked what will the funds be used for and Mr. Brown stated that the funding will be used to upgrading some things at the Kelly Mill Facility and also maybe upgrading the house on the property so that we can use it as a rental.

Commissioner Weiss congratulated Staff on a great job managing the budget for all the projects.

8. Executive Director Report: (Information-Handout)

Mr. James Brown reported Agency Updates as outlined on the handout.

9. Other Business:

Commissioner Weiss asked everyone to rise for a moment of silence in honor of Mr. James Bridgett.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter made by Commissioner Lewis, second by Commissioner Weiss. Motion approved unanimously by all members present; Green, Weiss, Lewis, Mickens and Furgess.

10. Executive Session

No votes were taken in Executive Session.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.


J. Marie Green, Chair

Minutes approved on this 21st day of March 2016.