

RECREATION COMMITTEE
5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2009

The regular meeting of the Personnel Committee was held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at the Recreation Center, 24 Twenty-eighth Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina. Attending the meeting were member Buckhannon and Duffy, Director Page, Administrator Tucker, Assistant to the Administrator Dziuban and City Clerk Copeland. The absence of Chairwoman Rice was excused; Mayor Cronin attended the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, Vice-Chairman Duffy conducted the meeting.

1. Vice-Chairman Duffy called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the press and the public had been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 2009 as submitted; Vice-Chairman Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Citizens' Comments** - None

4. Department Report – Director Page

Among the highlights for March, Director Page began her report stating that there had been approximately sixty (60) young people at the Middle School dance held March 27. At the Tae Kwon Do Tournament held at the Rec Center on March 28, there were one hundred (100) participants. Next week is spring break; there will be a different activity each day, and these activities, except for science day, will be staffed primarily by the Department's employees. The Living Well program had twenty-one (21) seniors registered. There had been a presentation to the staff about holding an island variety show, and the staff is going to try to have one in the spring of 2010. In the area of Athletics, there have been fourteen (14) teams to register for 3-on-3 basketball – the most ever. Director Page noted that several activities had generated no interest, but they would be offered at another time in the future. Due to the good participation in Friday Night Hoops, it will continue throughout the spring. At Doggie Day at the Rec, one hundred (100) dogs were given rabies shots, and seventy-eight (78) licenses were sold. For the employees participating in the Wellness Program, the staff is planning a training session on the proper use of the cardio equipment at the end of April. The Director was very pleased to announce that the 5-7 year age group of Camp Summershine is filled for all eight (8) weeks.

Vice-Chairman Duffy asked if the treadmills were under warranty to cover the cost of the motors that were replaced; Director Page responded that they were not.

The Director reported that she had given several tours of the facility during the month of March and each group had commented on the cleanliness of the building.

She asked that everyone take a moment to see the handicap ramp that Nick Bako had constructed at the end of the walkway at the 29th Avenue exit from the building.

Director Page announced that all of the camp counselors had been hired for the summer, the entire staff had renewed their CPR-AD training and that she and her staff had assisted with the Topping Off Ceremony at the new Public Safety Building.

Administrator Tucker announced that Assistant Dziuban was preparing a submission for an Achievement Award in the communications category for the City's newsletters – City and Recreation e-newsletters.

Cheryl Burns, the representative from the IOP Neighborhood Association, asked if CPR training was available to citizens of the island. She was assured that the Fire Department would be happy to provide CPR training to any groups at the Rec Center, another location or a residential home. Director Page said she would contact Chief Graham about holding classes at the Rec Center.

5. Old Business

A. Review of Capital and Operating Budgets for FY 2009-2010

Administrator Tucker explained that the budgets were on the agenda again to give members one last review in light of the budget workshop on April 15, 2009; she commented that there had not been any significant changes to the drafts since the last review. Clerk Copeland reminded the Administrator about the change to employee health insurance that would go into effect July 1; SCLGAG has decided to eliminate the two hundred dollar (\$200) deductible plan that the City has offered; it will be replaced by a three hundred fifty dollar (\$350) deductible plan. With the higher deductible, the premium is reduced to the City lowering the budget total for most departments, but this change also results in higher medical costs for the City's employees.

Councilman Buckhannon stated that Director Page had submitted lean budgets to the Committee, the Committee had reviewed them twice and he thought another look would be superfluous.

The Administrator reported that the budget process has reached the point where revenues were being put up against expenses; she reminded the Committee that each operating budget included merit and COLA increases. Presently there is concern that revenues will not be sufficient to fund these increases.

B. Discussion of Middle School Dances

Director Page recalled that, at the last City Council meeting, Councilman Buckhannon had asked her to compute the costs of holding a middle school dance; the conclusion was that the total cost was approximately \$864 per dance, including food, a jump castle and overtime for the Police Officers. On the topic of overtime, the Director related that she staggers the Recreation Department staff to avoid overtime, and the Fire Department sends firefighters who are on duty to avoid overtime. The Police Department does bring in personnel, who generate approximately one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175) in overtime pay. Obviously, with the small number of attendees, the costs are not being recaptured.

The idea agreed upon for next year is to have three to four (3-4) dances, and each dance will have a theme. The monthly dances will be discontinued.

Since there are only two (2) dances remaining on the schedule this spring, the Director was instructed to proceed with them and make the change in the fall of 2009.

Director Page expressed her opinion that there truly was not a need for the Police Officers, because the number of young people who attend has dropped so dramatically from the days when there were several hundred youth. Administrator Tucker agreed that there were Police Officers in the City who could be called and respond quickly should the need arise.

Mayor Cronin asked why the numbers had dropped, and the Director responded that the dances have much more competition for the young people than when the dances originated, i.e. Palmetto Grande theatre, Town Center, etc.

Administrator Tucker added that one (1) additional reason she was supportive of reducing the number of dances was the "wear and tear" on the employees. She noted that frequently there will be the dance on Friday night, a City event on Saturday morning and maybe another on Sunday. She expressed the opinion that there was a big potential to burn out the Recreation Department employees.

6. New Business - None

7. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 5, 2009

8. Adjourn

MOTION: Councilman Buckhannon moved to adjourn at 5:38 p.m.; Vice Chairman Duffy seconded and the motion PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted:

Marie Copeland

City Clerk