

**Cherokee County Recreation & Parks Agency
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2015 – Cherokee Hall**

Present

Amy Turcotte, 2nd Vice Chairman
Jason Nelms
Steve Pressley
Robert Strozier

Staff

Bryan Reynolds, Director
Andrea Johnson, Administrative Service Manager
Michael Brantley, Parks Division Director
Jay Worley, Athletics Division Director
Steve Ralston, Parks Maintenance Superintendent

Absent

Chris Hampton, Chairman

Work Session– 5:30 PM

FY2014 CRPA Annual Report Presentation – Bryan Reynolds

Director Reynolds showed a PowerPoint of the Cherokee Recreation and Parks FY2014 Annual Report. He talked about the history of Cherokee Recreation and Parks, discussed the 2014 highlights, the value of Recreation and Parks and FY2014 funding sources. He informed the board that he would be presenting the FY2014 CRPA's Annual Report at the Cherokee County BOC meeting on Tuesday, February 17. Vice Chairman, Turcotte stated that she would like to see that all the Youth Athletic Associations get a link to the Annual Report to have on their websites.

Discussion of Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Director Reynolds informed the board that Chairman Hampton would be running a little late, and there was a possibility that he may not get to make the meeting at all. Director Reynolds turned the Work Session over to Amy Turcotte, 2nd Vice Chairman to call the work session to order. The board reviewed the regular meeting agenda items. The board reviewed the previous minutes. Thomas Weaver was present to address the board during the public comment section of the agenda. Mr. Weaver wanted to ask the board to delete Section 42-41 of the Cherokee County ordinances related to the discharge of a firearm within county parks. There was a discussion on the election of 2015 advisory board officers. The Chairman wanted to confirm that there was a policy on use of video and photographs taken at CRPA events. There were no board member reports. The board talked about the consideration of a request by the Cherokee Saddle Club to terminate partnership agreement with the County for the construction and maintenance of horse/hiking trails at Garland Mountain. They also discussed changes to Cherokee County Ordinances as Related to Recreation & Parks as requested by the Board of Commissioners.

Regular Meeting – 6:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Amy Turcotte, 2nd Vice Chairman called the meeting 6:48 p.m.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

Jason Nelms motioned to approve the previous minutes. Robert Strozier seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0.

3. Appearances / Public Comment

Thomas Weaver discussed with the board Cherokee County ordinance section 42-41 Firearms in Parks. The current ordinance states: *No person shall discharge any firearm or explosive, including firecrackers or fireworks except with the express written permission of the director of the Recreation and Parks department of the count, in any park or recreation facility owned, operated or controlled by the county.(Ord. of 8-18-87)(1),6.* Mr. Weaver is requesting the county delete that portion of Section 42-41 as it relates to the

discharge of a firearm within county parks. In a letter addressed to the Director and CCRP Advisory Board Members, he contends that adequate state laws exist to prohibit the criminal abuse or misuse through the unsafe discharge of a firearm and provides an adequate remedy to authorize the arrest, prosecution and conviction of any person who were to enter a county park and discharge a firearm in a reckless manner. State law coverage is sufficient, and it is therefore in his belief that the county ordinance on this topic is duplicative and unnecessary. The board thanked Mr. Weaver for his appearance and knowledge about Recreation and Parks Ordinances Section 42-41- Firearms and explosive.

4. Reports / New Business

a. Chairman

i. Election of 2015 Advisory Board Officers

The board discussed the election of the 2015 officers. Director Reynolds explained that the ordinance requires the board to elect a chairperson and other officers as desired annually. With the absence of current Chairman, Chris Hampton, the board elected to table the election until the April meeting.

ii. Discussion of CRPA Policy on Use of Video & Photographs Taken @ CRPA Events

Director Reynolds told the board the Chairman Hampton had been contacted by a parent whose child had been videoed at a basketball game. The video tape was then used to show a referee about an incident that had taken place during the game. Chairman Hampton just wanted to make sure that we do have a Photography/Video policy. Director Reynolds assured the board we have a policy in place that states: on occasion, CRPA may photograph or videotape registrants, participants and spectator in Agency programs, special events or facilities. Such photographs are for Agency use only and may be used in publications, brochures, pamphlets, flyers, websites, video productions, marketing and training. No action was taken.

b. Board Members

There were no board member reports.

c. Director

i. Consideration of a Request by the Cherokee Saddle Club to Terminate Partnership Agreement with the County for the Construction & Maintenance of Horse/Hiking Trails @ Garland Mountain

Director Reynolds informed the board that the Cherokee Saddle Club would like for the board to consider their request to terminate the partnership agreement with the County for the Construction and Maintenance of the Horse/Hiking Trails at Garland Mountain. The board talked about the Saddle Club's request. Director Reynolds and Steve Ralston told the board that the Saddle Club has new leadership and they want to focus club efforts on increasing trail ridership and social events rather than trail maintenance. There are still some old members that would like to continue with construction and maintenance of the trails. CRPA staff will work with these volunteers to form a "Friends of Garland Mountain" group that will continue the efforts to build and maintain the trails. The board wanted to thank all the members for the many volunteer hours that they have put in to the trails. Jason Nelms motioned to accept the Cherokee Saddle Club's termination partnership agreement with the county for the construction and maintenance of horse/hiking trails at Garland Mountain. Robert Strozier seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0.

ii. Discussion & Consideration of an Update to Cherokee County Ordinances as Related to Recreation & Parks as requested by the Board of Commissioners

Director Reynolds reviewed the current Cherokee County Ordinances with the board along with recommended changes by staff. Among those changes are:

- Adding a section with definitions;
- Adding a section on Animal Control in Parks including off-leash dog park areas;
- Revising the section on camping to permit primitive camping in certain park areas;
- Adding a section regulating commercial activity in county parks;
- Modifying the section on the discharge of firearms in county parks;
- Adding a section regulating golfing in county parks;
- Adding a section on the application and issuance of park permits;
- Modifying the section on hours of operation;
- Modifying the sections on operation and parking of motor vehicles in parks;
- Creating a new section regulating pyrotechnics in parks;
- Adding a section regulating tobacco use in parks;
- Adding a section on the use of metal detectors in parks;
- Adding a section on the use of engine powered model planes, rockets and drones in parks;
- And adding a section regulating use of skateboards, bicycles, etc. in parks.

There was discussion on the current ordinance vs. the proposed changes. The board had some questions about some of the current, recommended changes and other jurisdictions and areas. After the discussion, it was noted that the next step would be legal review of the proposed changes. Following legal review, the proposed ordinance would receive another review by the advisory board prior to recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. In the only action taken by the advisory board on this issue, Jason Nelms motioned the Advisory Board recommend to the BOC that the Section 42-41 be amended to remove the director's ability to grant permission to discharge a firearm in a county park, separate pyrotechnics into a separate section and maintain the ban on discharging firearms in county parks. Robert Strozier seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

5. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

6. Adjourn

Jason Nelms motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Robert Strozier seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0. Before the meeting was adjourned, Jason Nelms and the board thanked Director Reynolds and his staff for the great job that they do.