

**RALEIGH COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

**May 7, 2020
9:00A.M.**

- 1. Call to Order: Dave Tolliver**
- 2. Roll Call: In person - Dave Tolliver, Ron Hedrick, Linda Epling, Clyde Stepp, Carl Roop, Molly Williams, BJ Pritchard, Billy Michael,**
On conference line - Dennis Lilly, Natasha Smith, Gillian Cochran, Jill Blake and other campers.

3. New Business

3.1 Covid-19 – Update on Operation Changes and Projects – All opening dates are tentative and depend on the governor’s plan on opening parks and recreational areas.

May 22 – **RV Park** – Allowing campers to pull in and stay. No common areas will be opened. Playground, bathrooms, laundry, and camp store will remain closed. If outside the camper social distancing is required. No additional guest, only the registered camper’s immediate family. Campers from outside WV are permitted only if they will be 14 days quarantined at the campground and not returning to their home state. If they do, and each time after, return to from being out of state the 14 day quarantine starts over. (Rec Area concession stand may be open to serve campers. A&J and RCPRA are still discussing this option.) The installation of the wifi from KTS changed the opening date from the 18 to the 22.

June 1 – **Marina** – Allow boaters to park in their slips, launch boats, and buy items at the Marina Store. When at the store all guests and employees must wear a mask and use social distancing. Bathrooms will be opened and cleaned every 24 hours.

Campground – Tent site, camp store, bathrooms, and laundry area will be open. Employees and guest must wear masks when in those areas. Social distancing is required. Areas will be cleaned every 24 hours.

Picnic Shelters and Bathrooms – These facilities will be open. Limiting to current state regulations of group size. Social distancing and/or masks must be followed. Bathrooms will be cleaned every 24 hours.

Pavilion – Will be open for event rentals. Facility will be cleaned after each event. Guests must follow current regulations on group size and social distancing, as well as masks.

Dry Hill Prosperity Community Building – Will be open for event rentals. Facility will be cleaned after each event. Guests must follow current regulations on group size and social distancing, as well as masks.

Cabins – Rentals will begin. Cleaning will occur after each stay.

June 8 - **Fitzpatrick Park Fields (Fields 1-3)** – Leagues and tournaments. Porta Potties arrive. Bathrooms and concession stand open during leagues and tournaments. Social distancing will be in place and masks are to be worn when social distancing is not being observed. Bathrooms and concession will be cleaned after each open evening. Porta potties will be cleaned weekly. On May 5 the Governor mentioned in his press conference to be able to start league sports the beginning of June.

June 22 – **Splash Pad, Beach, and Aqua Park, Bathrooms and Concession Stand** – Open, following current regulations on group size and social distancing. Employees will wear masks. Bathrooms will be cleaned every 24 hours. This will also be the start of party rentals for those facilities.

Playgrounds – The National Recreation and Parks Association is not recommending opening playgrounds at this time. No guidance has been issued from the State or Governor’s office. Cost to clear playgrounds could be high.

Pools/Swimming areas - After listening in to the WV Tourism conference call on Friday May 1, Chelsea Ruby has said specific guidelines for pool will be given. Those guidelines have not been released. Several other parks and rec agencies throughout the state are not opening pools for the 2020 season for several reasons. Also, a state wide lifeguard shortage is expected due to inability to have certification and recertification classes.

Porta potties – These are cleaned once a week by the company. I am not sure if more cleaning is an option.

Remember these dates are still tentative depending on several factors: Governor’s regulations, County Health Dept, staffing needs and training, PPE, availability of supplies and equipment, shipping, large projects and weather.

Events Calendar is changing too.

4. Old Business

4.1 Lake Stephens Beach Sand Bids - 3 bids were received:

Shamblin Stone - Dunbar, WV
Mortar sand - \$33.95 per ton

Salem Stone - Wytheville, WV
Concrete sand - \$39.70 per ton

Debar Trucking Co. Parkersburg, WV
Mason sand - \$47.50 per ton

We have the option of 1100-1800 tons. 1100 tons will cover 4 inches, which will cost at least \$37,000. 1800 tons will cover 6 inches and cost at least \$42,000. The money for this project will come from capital improvement fund. There are many improvements between Fitzpatrick and Lake Stephens, which have costed over \$100,000 already. Molly asks if it would be better to wait until next year due to unknowns that COVID-19 produces. It is stated that revenue and hotel motel tax are both down. Due to the money that has already been spent between both parks and the lack of revenue coming in, if any more is spent on sand, it has to be the very base amount. That leaves 1100 tons of mortar sand from Shamblin Stone as the only option. Motion to buy 1100 tons of mortar sand from Shamblin Stone at \$37,345 passes.

4.2 Fitzpatrick Park Update – The people that Mr. Hedrick contacted about the two poles have not gotten back to him. He states that they may price new ones, but it could become a community service project. If a good price is offered, Mr. Hedrick will return to the board and the details will be determined. Fields 1-3 and especially 4 all require additional work. Several professionals have been met with, inside and outside of the county - including engineers and independent companies. On fields 1-3, blowing out the drains, assisted by PSD, cannot be completed until it is no longer raining. Allegheny Agronomics has begun working on fields 1-3, including addressing infield issues and re-leveling them. It is costing \$17,850 for fields 1-3 and for field 4, it will cost \$11k for field 4, which had not yet been approved.

Molly thinks it may be a better plan to put field 4 on hold. RCPRA is hoping to start moving dirt to field 4 next week. Entire plan has not been worked out, but it is in progress. Aaron Hamilton has been doing maintenance at Fitz. A & J will need to look at the electrical work in the concession to ensure it is all ready to go. There are some bulbs in the field lights that need changed and the best option to solve that is being sought. Inquiring the assistance of a master electrician is suggested. The reopening of a drainage ditch along field 4 (being done by Billy's employees) is underway. Dirt is needed for field 4's outfield, as well. It is suggested that the dirt from the dredge that occurred many years ago may be able to be used. It is stated that it is good soil and if it can be used, an additional cost can be avoided. Digging the ditch along the road by the dugout (base line) is necessary and will be done by county employees. Molly is meeting with Barry to discuss gravel and additional parking at Fitzpatrick. Molly is also meeting with CSX to discuss the scouring around the culvert on other side of the track – the scouring must be fixed.

5. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting May 19, 2020 at 11:00am at the Raleigh County Commission Office.