



DATE: February 21, 2008

TO: Michael G. Herring, City Administrator

FROM: Darren Dunkle, Acting-Director of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – 2/20/08 Parks and Recreation Committee

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee took place on Wednesday, 2/20/08. Those in attendance included Chairperson Mike Casey, Ward 3, Councilmember Barry Flachsbart, Ward 1, Councilmember Lee Erickson, Ward 2 and Councilmember Bob Nation, Ward 4. Also in attendance were Councilmember Connie Fultz, Ward 4, Councilmember Dan Hurt Ward 3, Mayor Nations, Acting-Director of Parks and Recreation Darren Dunkle, Maria Saxon and Judy Erbs of the Swim and Dive Team Parents Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Item I: Approval of Minutes – Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to accept the January 14, 2008 minutes as submitted. Councilmember Erickson seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item II: Swim and Dive Team – Mr. Dunkle stated that at the last meeting of the Committee, Staff was directed to review and prepare an analysis of the e-mail that was sent to the City from the parent committee of the Chesterfield Swim and Dive Teams. Mr. Dunkle went on to state that the Parks Staff had reviewed and analyzed the e-mail, and recommends that City Council amend the “Fees and Charges – Departmental Plan” to allow for subsidies in the “Specialized Interest Programs” category, and to approve rolling back the individual participation fee to \$96.00 per resident and \$116 per non-resident, and to waive the fee of one (1) participant per parent committee family. Mr. Dunkle stated that this would amount to a subsidy of approximately \$8,772 annually (based on the 2007 participation rate), and could be accomplished by simply reducing the amount of funds that Council has allocated for Miscellaneous Contractual Programs, thus balancing the Parks and Recreation Budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember Nation, seconded by Councilmember Casey, to approve Staff's recommendation.

Discussion followed regarding the potential "precedent" that would for be set by subsidizing the program. Councilmember Hurt suggested that the City should not subsidize the program at all, as it has been previously determined that "Specialized Interest Programs" should pay for themselves. Councilmember Flachsbart asked if the City should just charge expenses that are directly related to the program and not charges associated with overall administrative/maintenance. Councilmember Hurt asked why the City should pay for coaches when other sports have volunteers who serve that purpose? Mr. Flachsbart requested that Staff provide a general cost analysis, with answers to the questions noted above, to members of the Council, prior to the next City Council Meeting.

The original motion was approved by a vote of 3-1, with Councilmember Flachsbart voting no.

Agenda Item III: Other – None.

Agenda Item IV: Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

