

## MINUTES

### GRAHAM CREEK NATURE PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD

407 E. LAUREL AVENUE

FOLEY, ALABAMA

CONFERENCE ROOM

AUGUST 6, 2015

5:30 P.M.

#### MEETING

##### *Call to Order/Roll Call*

Vice Chairman Tommy Patterson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Members present: Tim Closson, Phillip Hinesley, Greg Knight, Homer Singleton and Chad Watkins. Others present: Leslie Gahagan, Vickey Southern, Wayne Trawick and Jackie Trimble.

#### MINUTES

##### ***Approve Minutes of July 2, 2015***

The minutes had a few minor corrections after the original draft was emailed. The second draft was sent in a second email.

Mr. Singleton made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Closson seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### ***Discuss Meeting Dates***

Mr. Hinesley requested if there are not a lot of items to discuss to meet maybe every other month instead of monthly. This would be at the discretion of staff and chair. There were several members that expressed their agreement on meeting as necessary.

Chairman Zana Price arrived.

Mr. Hinesley made a motion to recommend asking Council to amend the resolution to allow the board to be flexible with the monthly meetings based on the business at hand (as needed). Mr. Singleton seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Patterson turned the meeting over to Chairman Price who called for a vote on the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

### ***Presentation by Tommy Patterson***

Ms. Gahagan reported Tommy Patterson has done some awesome work on a panoramic view of Graham Creek Nature Preserve, which he will be showing. Mr. Patterson reported that since he has retired he has taken up aerial photography out of helicopters, airplanes and now unmanned aerial vehicles. He has been building them prior to the drones coming out. He went out to the Park this morning to shoot the new road.

Ms. Gahagan described the various points of interest. The portion of the road from Wolf Bay Drive is completed up to the point of the bridge crossing and they started at Philomene Holmes Road to come up to the bridge from the other side. The photography showed the fabric that keeps the gravel in. Ms. Gahagan complimented the Public Works men who did a great job on the road. She continued to describe the various locations and where the Interpretive Centre will be constructed. The board members complimented Mr. Patterson on the great job that he did with the aerial photography.

Mr. Patterson reported that when you do aerial photography you have to be very knowledgeable with the privacy act and ensure that no one's privacy is invaded.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### ***Discuss Rental Contracts***

Ms. Gahagan reported a copy of the contracts is Vickey's handiwork. She did everything from the application, contract, rules, rental fees and alcohol use. Ms. Gahagan put some comments in red and she asked that prior to the next meeting please send them to Ms. Gahagan. It has to go before Council prior to January 1, 2016 instead of September 1, 2015. She would like it to go by calendar year instead of fiscal year because the Centre will not be completed until February or March.

Mr. Hinesley asked about the damage deposit equal to the amount of the rental but not less than \$500. He did not think that a damage deposit should be required for a pavilion rental.

Mr. Patterson had a concern about the music. Ms. Gahagan stated that if it is in the Centre it should be ok and there is only day use for the pavilions. The City does have a noise ordinance that is in place.

Also noted the fee for the small pavilion should be changed from \$75 to \$50. Ms. Gahagan requested the board review the draft documents and let her and copy Ms. Southern on any changes.

Under the Interpretive Center Regulations/Requirements Mr. Hinesley questioned flammable fluids when they have grills. This will be changed to indicate the exception of designated City of Foley approved grills because the City has charcoal grills with containers to dump the coals.

Ms. Gahagan asked that comments/changes be submitted prior to the September meeting so that it can be adopted by the Board and sent on to the Council.

Mr. Patterson commended Samantha Daniels on her plant tour presentation that was very nice. There were approximately 10 people that attended. Ms. Gahagan reported they had enough feedback that they plan to do maybe three or four a year seasonally and some on the weekend. She did a pamphlet with color photos that identified what you could eat, use medicinally, etc.

Ms. Gahagan reported Samantha did a pamphlet for the birds and had a comprehensive bird list that contained a QR Code so that you could hear the sound the bird makes. There was no charge for the pamphlet. The bird ladies have changed out and they are full of birds and they have a lot of new volunteers. They brought in a red tailed hawk. Ms. Southern reported that it was very informative and educational. The bird center tour was very nice and they got to see a duck, and variety of other birds.

Ms. Southern reported that Morgan did a great job on her presentation. We got into different groups to see what we thought we could do as a project and each group had something different. They also learned that there are different pots of money that is being distributed. It was very nice. Ms. Gahagan reported that it would be funded through the Deepwater Horizon money that is coming in. She also reported they had some great interns this year and none of them were from here. One was from Huntsville and the other was from Kansas. She had three and they all left at the end of July.

#### REMINDERS

***The next meeting will be September 3, 2015***

#### VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

In November there is a Power Man event. August 22 and 23 Lawn mower races will be held at the Blue Collar site. Ms. Gahagan reported she spoke with Lisa Piggott and her daughter was a cross country runner. In February they will be hosting "Rachel's Run", who was killed a few years ago, at the park. They raised

enough money from the first run held at the Wharf that they gave three scholarships out this year.

On August 14, in conjunction with the Centennial Year event, Spirit Night will be held at Ivan Jones Stadium. Starting at 5:00 p.m. there will be a Blue and Gold scrimmage. At 6:30 p.m. they are inviting anyone that has ever put on any kind of uniform for Foley Schools (band, chorus, cheerleader, mascot, football, baseball, golf, etc.) to be a part of the Centennial. Dean Hansen played in 1941 and will be in attendance. Mickie Blackwell McConnell was a cheerleader when Foley was the Satsuma's. They will line up on the field according to their sport and do a memorial to Snake Stabler. They will have the players that played with Kenny to sign balls to give to his family. The following Thursday night is the kickoff game against Gulf Shores. On the 15<sup>th</sup> is the drawdown.

The Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders did artwork and a poem for the Centennial for a book entitled from "A to Z" with each letter representing something about Foley. The artwork corresponds with each letter. For example, C is for Cobs Light. They will be available for sale in October.

ADJOURN

Hearing no further comments Mr. Watkins made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Singleton seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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Vickey Southern, Recording Secretary