



MINUTES
Kinston/Lenoir County Parks & Recreation Department
September 3, 2020 – Emergency Meeting
5:30pm
ZOOM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sue Ellen Maddux Merwyn Smith
Dr. Gary Wojeski Christopher Bradshaw
Jeremy Barnett Nicholas Harvey

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. James Sylvia Sonya Berry
Amanda Sawyer Rosalyn Yarus
Kelly Jarman Antonio Hardy

The September 3, 2020 meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Sue Ellen Maddux.

There were no committee reports.

Corey Povar discussed Governor Cooper's Executive Order to move into Phase 2.5 on September 4, 2020 and how it will affect the opening of community centers and recreation facilities. Corey, along with recreation staff, devised rules and regulations for Teachers Memorial, Fairfield, Holloway, Mock Gym, and Kinston Community Center. There will be a specific list of rules and regulations for the Nature Center and Planetarium. Corey stated that they both could be classified as museums, which could open at 50% capacity but was cautious with everything at the Planetarium being tactile. Corey stated that the Executive Order into Phase 2.5 would most likely be discussed at the September 8 city council meeting and wanted the Recreation Commission to have the opportunity to discuss it prior to. 30% capacity based on square footage for Mock Gym is 84 patrons and for Kinston Community Center is 147 patrons; those numbers do not include staff. Chris Bradshaw stated that the capacity numbers should be lowered due to 84 being such a large number of people in one facility. He also asked how patrons would be required to socially distance. Corey stated that every patron will be required to wear a mask in all common areas except when performing vigorous activity, every other piece of equipment is marked off as not usable, and masks are required to be worn when moving among equipment. There will be a temperature check upon entering the facility, each individual will sign a waiver, masks will be provided for those needing one, and there will be six feet separation decals placed on the floor. Sue Ellen Maddux questioned how to social distance during basketball. Corey stated that basketball could be played in small numbers and that masks would not be required because it is considered vigorous activity. Merwyn Smith stated this would be problematic due to the face to face contact. Chris stated that the regulations set by the NC High School Athletic Association for basketball only allowed 10 people in the gym, including coaches, playing basketball and that all were required to remain six feet apart. There is no game play, only fundamentals and drills. Sue Ellen asked that this also apply to our facilities; no game play. Corey stated that game play in small numbers is allowed under Phase 2.5 but if the Recreation Commission isn't comfortable with that, then it won't be allowed at recreation facilities. Dr. Wojeski questioned if any of the gyms had WiFi. Corey stated that only KCC did, none of the gyms do at this time. Chris Bradshaw stated that there were surrounding counties that had been offering basketball game play since the beginning of Phase 2 and that the coaches he had communicated with, had not had any COVID-19 cases. Sue Ellen stated that there would be no coaches at our facilities enforcing safety precautions. Corey stated that our staff would be responsible for ensuring all safety protocols are followed. Sue Ellen suggested that the wording on the rule for wiping down fitness equipment after use be changed from "encouraged" to "required." Corey stated that any words such as "recommended" or "encouraged" within the COVID-19 rules and regulations would be changed to

“required.” Chris Bradshaw suggested that the Mock Gym capacity should be reduced from 84 to 40. No vote could be made due to lack of quorum. Sue Ellen stated that it is important for the Recreation Commission to vote on the proposed COVID-19 rules and regulations before the City Council meeting on September 8, 2020. There was a consensus that the Recreation Commission will have a ZOOM meeting tentatively on September 7, 2020 to vote.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Melissa McCoy

Secretary to the Kinston/Lenoir County Parks & Recreation Commission