



# County Council Committee Minutes

## Livability Committee February 17, 2020

The Livability Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, February 17, 2020, in County Council Chambers of the County Administrative Office Building. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting was provided in advance to the local news media and other interested parties. The following were in attendance: Honorable Jack Mabry, Chairman; Honorables Manning Lynch and David Britt, Committee Members; along with Honorables Michael Brown, Whitney Farr, Bob Walker, and Roger Nutt, Council Members. Also attending were Cole Alverson, County Administrator; Earl Alexander, Deputy County Administrator; John Harris, County Attorney; and Ginny Dupont, County Attorney.

### I.

Chairman Mabry called the meeting to order.

### II.

- A. Ms. Laura Ringo, Executive Director, Partners for Active Living, presented information in reference to a request from Partners for Active Living that Council designate up to \$100,000 from the existing trails funding for Wadsworth Trail Phase 5, Anderson Mill Road side path. (The Wadsworth Trail Map was presented and is included in backup) Partners for Active Living has been working with County Parks, Spartanburg Area Transportation Study (SPATS), and the City of Spartanburg to build out a trail. Ms. Ringo showed the Council Members the proposed trail area on a map of The Wadsworth Trail. The full project cost is \$1 million. Council has already allocated \$100,000 to the project. SPATS Policy has allocated \$800,000. They are short about \$100,000. Because SPATS allocated the funds with federal dollars, the project will be administered by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). They will handle engineering, right-of-way, and construction. Motion made by Mr. Britt to support request through the appropriation of funds from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure "Trails Bank." Motion seconded by Mr. Lynch and carried. Mr. Nutt stated that this is a great project. Mr. Brown stated there are new subdivisions in the area, and asked if there are

any concerns about traffic as it relates to this. Ms. Ringo stated the developer of the subdivisions on both sides of Anderson Mill Road have saved room for the sidepath.

- B. Mr. Kevin Stiens, Parks and Recreation Director, presented information in reference to a request from the **Parks Department** to submit a grant application to the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, which will allow Spartanburg County to apply for funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program. Mr. Stiens stated this grant request would be in the amount of \$300,000. The \$300,000 would come through the federal government from the U.S. Department of Interior. The State manages the grant. The funds would be utilized to continue adding athletic field lighting at Va-Du-Mar McMillan Park. The Parks Department will have a request in their FY21 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to hopefully finish lights in the park. They would be looking to utilize the funds in next year's CIP to fulfill the grant match. The grant award would come after July. If the project was not approved, the Parks Department would be able to withdraw their application before the award was made. In addition to the 50% match, the grant requires that the parcel of land that receives the funds has to remain for public recreation in perpetuity. Va-Du-Mar McMillan Park has received LWCF funds in the past, so the deed restriction is already in place. Motion made by Mr. Britt to approve the grant application submittal. Motion seconded by Mr. Lynch and carried.
- C. Mr. Kevin Stiens, Parks and Recreation Director, presented information in reference to a request from the **Parks Department** to submit a grant application to the South Carolina Department on Aging, which will allow Spartanburg County to apply for funding through the Senior Center Permanent Improvement Program. If approved, the Parks Department will be seeking \$60,000 that they would match with \$25,000 they have in their current operating budget that would allow them to redo the gym floor at the Woodruff Leisure Center. Motion made by Mr. Britt to approve the grant application submittal. Motion seconded by Mr. Lynch and carried.
- D. Information received regarding activities of the Parks Department.

Meeting adjourned.