

SANGAREE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT (SSTD) ADVISORY COMMISSION

Planning Meeting September 1, 2020 - 6:00p.m. (Virtual)

Dial-in number (US): (978) 990-5000 Access code: 175638# Online meeting ID: mbagleysangaree

Join the online meeting:

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Chairman Drew Hauelsen called the Planning Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The virtual meeting was attended by Vice Chairman Michael Bagley, Secretary Jeannie Beard, Commissioners Ann Birch, Harold Green and Alternate Commissioners Pat Temple, Elle Meise and Todd Ellis. Also present virtually were SSTD General Manager Brian Callihan and Administrative Assistant Laura Baker

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Chairman Drew asked if there were additions to the Agenda and there were none. No motion for approval of the Agenda was made or seconded, and it was not voted upon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR August 4, 2020 Meeting – Commissioner Michael Bagley made a motion that the Minutes for the August 4, 2020 meeting be accepted as published, which was seconded by Commissioner Harold Green. The motion passed unanimously at vote.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. General Manager's Report --

- A. Holiday Schedule - County office will be closed on Monday September 7, 2020 in observance of Labor Day. All Sangaree services will be delayed one day that week.
- B. Fire Protection – C&B Fire Protection reported normal operations for the month of August 2020.
- C. Code Enforcement is currently working cases including the maintenance and security of empty homes, unkempt yards and lots, and prohibited animals. They are also assisting the SSTD office with sidewalk maintenance concerns, parking issues and the removal of large yard debris and construction materials.

Because we are in hurricane season, we were asked to remind everyone to secure outdoor items during a storm to help prevent avoidable property damage.
- D. Solid Waste – Under our current contract for waste pickup, we are prohibited from requesting individuals requesting a second trash cart to set up an individual account for their second trash bin with the waste management company. Berkeley County (i.e., Sangaree) is solely responsible for payment of all services in Sangaree. Berkeley County Contracts Administrator will contact Republic about their willingness to set up individual accounts, if the Commission still wants to move forward, but there are no guarantees the individuals will be able to do so.
- E. County has ordered our pickup truck. No delivery date is available at this time.
- F. The SSTD office received 195 calls in August: 26 for contracted service (waste pickup); 57 for the Sangaree staff; 55 miscellaneous calls; and 57 hang ups
- G. Green Area Maintenance – Rains have prevented the completion of our mowing schedule for August. Of the 41 green areas, 36 have received monthly maintenance. Brian is planning to get the five remaining areas caught up in their September servicing.
- H. Drainage Ditch Maintenance – Rains have delayed the County from spraying the ditches. SSTD and County crews continue to cut weeds and grass in the ditches until the County can catch up with the spraying.
- I. Tree work – Rains have also delayed the completion of work at William Street, Beauregard Road, and the Parkway. New work at Joseph Court and Beauregard Road is scheduled for September. This will include removal of dead pine trees which should be completed by the end of September.

The issue of the Chipper Truck expense was brought up. This expense has been frozen for FY 2020-2021. Brian was asked if there is a formal agreement with Terry Stack for chipping. It was suggested this should have been brought before the SSTD Advisory Commission before executing a formal agreement to provide services. Brian assured the Commission that the agreement can be terminated at any time. Brian also assured the Commission that this will

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come from a budget line item and not from the funds appropriated for the new chipper. Stack has been paid to date, at a cost of approximately \$9,000 for July and August services because the crew was struggling to complete the maintenance of the green spaces. Since the funds for the 2 people we are short has been budgeted, the question was raised as to why they had not been hired already. At a previous meeting, Councilman Newell had commented that he would try to get the freeze lifted for the new hires, but it has not happened as yet.

Regarding how much chipping the SSTD crew does, Brian responded that SSTD crew does half and Stacks does half. As to how many that represents, Brian advised that the number can range from 80 stops to 400 stops in any given week. As it stands now, the SSTD crew does one day, and Stacks also does one day. Brian is to give the Commission a cost comparison of SSTD vs. Stacks to facilitate the Commission in understanding the necessity of using of a contractor.

A point was also made that Brian has assured the Commissioners that his crew was doing fine and everything was on track except for weather stoppages, which again somewhat contradicted the necessity for using Stacks. Following further questioning, Brian explained that the chipping work is an entry level position, and is posted as such throughout Berkeley County, not just in Sangaree, It is also a rough job, and is often in rough working conditions. There is a high turn-over in this particular entry-level position.

- J. Stump Grinding has been completed in the green area next to the Library (Sangaree Park). SSTD crews continue to improve the condition of the area for recreation and possibly a disc golf course.
- K. Special Projects --
 1. Skate Park – Equipment for the skate park has been ordered and is expected to be professionally installed in 45-60 days, hopefully, by the end of October. Signs are being finalized and two benches are ready to be placed after the equipment is installed.
 2. Cambridge Park PARD Grant – Berkeley County Grants Department is handling the purchase of the equipment, and SSTD crews will install the equipment. We have been given no delivery date at this time.
 3. Sail Shades for Raintree Park Project – Canopies for the older children’s (ages 5-12) equipment should be delivered by mid-September and installation should be completed by the end of September.
 4. Sangaree Park Pavilion – Brian will work on pricing for different options during September and present them at the October meeting. Based on the type of weather we may have and schedule availability of contractors, it is possible it could be completed this fall.
 5. Street Sign replacement – There are 14 neighborhoods in Sangaree with signs that need to be replaced. The first set of street sign panels have been ordered for Indian woods (20 signs), as well as the purchase of posts which will be prepared for installation. This is an ongoing project and each neighborhood in Sangaree will be replaced on a cyclical basis. Street signs that need emergency replacement will be replaced as soon as possible. It was suggested that the old panels be warehoused within Sangaree, perhaps at the maintenance garage, for use if required for emergency replacement. Brian is hoping that the signs for Indian Woods and perhaps a smaller neighborhood can be completed by the end of this fiscal year. It was also suggested that an additional line item be added to cover the cost of replacing the street signs for each area within the subdivision.
 6. Parkway Improvements/Beautification – This will be a fall/spring project and will of necessity be subject to the availability of plants. Brian is to solicit quotes from several nurseries and advise Elle, the Chair of the Parkway/Greenspace Beautification Committee, regarding the plants and their availability to start planting.

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7. Spring Lake (The Pond) shoreline project – Improvements and completion of the beautification project at the Pond will be scheduled for Spring.

II. Committee Reports

- A. Fire Protection – Chairman Todd Ellis reported that operations at the Sangaree C&B Station were normal for August. He also advised that Fire Chief Josh Woodall will join SSTD for the October 2020 meeting.
- B. Parks and Recreation – Chairman Ann Birch requested a proposed layout of facilities at Sangaree Park. It was suggested that we might need a special meeting to discuss the layout as well as ongoing projects at the Park, i.e., replacing the backstop for the baseball field, adding a basketball goal, perhaps laying out a disc golf course, and also a pickleball court. There has been no further response from person who had volunteered to assist with the pickleball court originally. Adult interest in the basketball court, disc golf course, and the pickleball court seems to be very high with many adults requesting places for these activities. We will solicit volunteers for these projects on our Facebook pages. Playground equipment will be broken down into equipment applicable for ages 2-5 years, with other equipment available for 5-12 year olds. (Additional lighting for Pond and parks covered under New Business Item F).
- C. Maintenance of Common Areas – This was covered in the General Manager’s report. Chairman Elle Meise also requested information on planting within the green areas and for the Parkway Beautification Project. Brian is to provide additional information for Elle.
- D. Solid Waste Collection – Sangaree will be soliciting new bids apart from Berkeley County for the 2021-2022 contract year. It was suggested that the bids be broken down into pricing for 1 cart per household, and also 2 carts; and further broken down into 1 pickup per week and 2 pickups per week to get an overview of the cost savings and/or expenses favored by the residents. The bid will have to be solicited in early January to get responses, approve bids, and draw up the contract before the 2021-2022 budget can be approved.

III. Old Business

- A. Trenholm Road repair – Chairman Todd Ellis contacted Mr. Robbins of the SCDOT to check on status. He’s waiting on a response on the possibilities. Rep. Joe Danning was told repairs have been scheduled for next year (2021). Since we need a date to discuss with our residents, residents and commissioners alike should forward requests for repairs and a completion date to the District Administrator for South Carolina/Berkeley County DOT.
- B. New solid waste pick-up contract – See Item II.D above. Additionally, Chairman Pat Temple is to poll the residents on Facebook for their opinions on the options available. All bids will have a deadline of early January 2021 for response.
- C. Elle Meise – The Advisory Commission and Brian Callihan agreed that the areas in which Chairman Meise would like to plant flowers (at her own cost) would not be subject to the herbicide spraying performed by Berkeley County for Sangaree and that, therefore, she could proceed with planting after ensuring it will not interfere with the Sangaree crew.
- D. Insurance coverage for Dog Park – Councilman Newell has been unable to provide information regarding insurance for the proposed dog park, so therefore, it was suggested that Brian check with the Berkeley County policy to see if we can obtain clarification regarding leashed vs. unleashed dogs and potential liability
- E. Basketball Goal – Because there has been much adult interest in having a basketball goal at Sangaree Park, it was suggested that we also include one in the design layout of facilities at Sangaree Park so it will not present any traffic interference.

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- F. Street Humps and petitions – A suggestion was made that perhaps putting a 3- or 4-Way stop just prior to some of the areas where traffic normally speeds, such as a block before the intersection of Beauregard and Longleaf, for lack of residents volunteering to solicit the signatures needed to petition for humps on streets with speeding drivers. Brian is to investigate cost.
- G. Home businesses – There are several businesses being operated out of residents' homes in Sangaree. While basically prohibited, Code Enforcement updated this situation as follows: the business in Traders Station is moving; the auto repair on Bedford Court in Spring Lake claims the vehicles (more than 5) are titled in his name. The report of encroachment and also fouled waste water in Sangaree green space must be handled by different departments. It was suggested that DHEC be contacted regarding the contaminated water run-off, and the Sheriff's Department be called in for noise ordinance violations after 10:00 p.m.

IV. New Business

- A. Planning vs. Public Meetings (Article V of Advisory Commission Bylaws) – The public has always been invited to our Planning and also Quarterly Public Meetings, so there is no conflict between our scheduled meetings as noted in the Bylaws. We are able to call a Special Meeting of the SSTD Advisory Commission if it is required,
- B. "Yard of the Month" – With positive Facebook feedback for recognizing well-kept yards, it seems like a very good idea. There would be no expense to the Sangaree Special Tax District since the residents themselves would suggest and vote on the "Yard of the Month". Elle has volunteered to be in charge of voting and Facebook postings. That decision limits the involvement of the SSTD Advisory Commission.
- C. Litter Signs – Elle suggested that perhaps we could follow the "Adopt A Highway" model and create an "Adopt a Street/Road" sign for Sangaree, enlisting volunteers and/or groups to clean litter in a specified area of Sangaree. The free signs are available from SCDOT. Commissioners were in agreement that we should utilize the free resources available.
- D. Park Directional Signs – Any new residents as well as many established residents are not aware of the location of our parks in Sangaree, Elle suggested directional signs pointing to the parks both as information and as a warning to be aware of children in playground areas. Also, the suggestion was made that Elle incorporate special maps showing the parks in the "Welcome" bags she prepares and delivers. This was unanimously approved, and Elle will be researching the cost for park directional signage.
- E. New Resident Welcome Bags – The question was raised as to what was included in the New Resident Welcome Bags, and Elle informed the Commissioners contents were whatever was donated, including business cards for Sangaree businesses, local maps, coupons, and other items that the resident businesses wanted to donate.
- F. Solar Lights (in parks and around Spring Lake/Pond) – Commissioner Ann Birch brought some figures for solar lighting for consideration. Also, it was requested of the SSTD Office that Brian research the cost for lighting the park areas, specifically around Spring Lake as well as other park lighting costs as in those for the Skate Park, to see if switching to solar street lights for the park areas would be cost effective. He will get this information for us at the October 6, 2020, Planning Meeting.
- G. Resident Feedback – Brian will get with Berkeley County Legal Department regarding a Waiver of Liability for those using the Skate Park and/or the Dog Park to see if it's feasible or desirable for use in Sangaree.

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ADJOURNMENT

At this point it was suggested that the meeting be called since the Advisory Commission had already been in session for over three hours. Chairman Drew Hauelsen called for a motion to table all remaining items and a motion was formally made by Jeannie Beard, seconded by Ann Birch and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20p.m.

VI. Announcements

A. The next Planning Meeting will be October 6, 2020 at 6:00pm. - location to be announced later.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeannie Beard, Secretary
Sangaree Special Tax District

