



NEWSLETTER

Ballentine Dutch Fork Civic Association
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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT April 2014

Update -Ballentine Park Improvements...Executive Director Mr. James Brown of Richland County Recreation Commission is currently working on his new fiscal budget. Hopefully the improvement projects we requested at the January meeting will be included for funding. The Civic Association and members in attendance expressed the need for: **1.** Park signage on Bickley Rd. **2.** Lighting for the Parking lot, **3.** Add fencing to prevent driving into the walking path areas, **4.** Add a new entrance road to the Soccer fields. **5.** Pave the parking lot...(we have a valid quote that this could be done for \$29,775) Our Councilman Bill Malinowski has researched information for possible funding of a new access road to the Soccer fields...let's hope it works out. **Lighting update:** From 4/14 through 4/18, the RCRC maintenance staff will begin trenching the parking lot for lights. From 4/21 through 4/25, SCE&G will begin installing the lights in the parking lot

If anyone wants to help....write a letter or send an email to Executive Director Mr. James Brown of Richland County Recreation Commission (email james_brown@rcrc.state.sc.us) & Councilman Bill Malinowski (email malinowski@rcgov.us) to encourage them to follow through on getting these requests completed.

Lake Murray Marina...at the March meeting representative Tammy Wright brought documentation to verify to our organization that proves the Marina is complying with all regulations related to safety issues in dispensing fuel at the docks.

Rt.76 widening... our need is for the two lane section of Rt.76 /Dutch Fork Rd. be widened at least out to Hilton as recommended in 2003. Thanks to Phil Savage...we have a report that Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) recommended the widening project in 2003. Now we need to know...why are we still waiting when the project was ranked #3 in importance out of 20 needed improvements. The estimate was \$17 mil which was close to the average cost of the top 10 projects. The other important discovery was...this recommended project was identified years before the passing of the 1% transportation tax we are all paying now.

It is time to get active and ask Nathan Ballentine (email schouse71@aim.com) to find out why this project isn't underway. Tell him you want this to happen...write to him, email him and forward this information on to anyone around here that agrees we need Rt.76 /Dutch Fork Rd. to be widened at least out to Hilton as recommended by the CMCOG in 2003. <http://www.centralmidlands.org/>

Nathan Ballentine was invited to the March meeting in an effort to take our first of many steps to a wider four lane road. He didn't make it...maybe we will see him this month.

Regards, Les Tweed – President