



Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

January 10, 2019

7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Cicora, Tom Joyce, Gerry Martinez De Andino, Alice Reese, Liz Stone, Wanda Halloway, Mark DiGiacomo, Len Lloyd, Val Atkinson

ABSENT MEMBERS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Cheri Lee

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Huffman, Lauren Martin

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order 7:00pm by Chair Stone

II. SPECIAL ADDRESS BY CITY MANAGER, RANDY HARRINGTON

Mr. Harrington attended the meeting to announce the new Parks & Recreation Director, LeeAnn Plumer. Ms. Plumer's experience includes past Parks & Recreation Director of Annapolis, and more currently, Town of Cary as Administrative Services Division Manager for their Parks & Recreation Department. Next, Mr. Harrington thanked Adam for his best work and past year of leadership. He finished by thanking the committee for our time and efforts and invited the Committee's input at any time.

Chair Stone echoed City Manager Harrington's thanks and recognition of Interim Director Huffman and added that she looks forward to Adam's continued attendance at our meetings.

Council Woman Lee recognized Interim Director Huffman for changing the face of the Town of Holly Springs Parks & Recreation in the past year especially noting that the Town Council has received fewer complaints from citizens regarding Parks & Recreation. Council Member Lee asked that the committee continue to stay engaged and stay active with the Director Plumer ensuring the committee is recognized and respected. She also encouraged the committee to be open to the change that comes with new leadership and to please continue to be proactive.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve: Member Cicora; Second: Martinez De Andino; Vote: Unanimous;
Meeting minutes approved with no corrections.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

None

V. INVESTMENTS IN PARKS & RECREATION SURVEY – INFORMATION (ADAM HUFFMAN)

A survey was created to gather citizens' input of Parks & Recreation priorities to help guide allocation of funds. Town Council approved the survey at the meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. The survey will be active for 3 weeks and 450 citizens have responded to date. Hopes are that citizens respond only once, but system allows multiple members of households respond.

Discussion:

- Chair Stone opened the discussion stating that the results could be skewed given that participants can submit a survey multiple times and Member Atkinson inquired about the decision to allow citizens to participate multiple times.
 - Interim Director Huffman responded that restricting each household to one response only allows one member of the household's opinion represented which also skews the results. This approach allows different responses from different family members.
 - Council Member Lee commented that the survey will also give Town Council an idea of the citizen's thoughts regarding Parks & Recreation and what the priorities are. She reminded the committee that Parks & Recreation are the biggest amenity and should not be forgotten.
- Member Lloyd inquired if the survey was the sole or driving determination of Parks & Recreation importance and Interim Director Huffman assured the committee that it is not and Town Council is open to input at any time.
- Council Member Lee inquired if the survey is available to citizens not on social media?
 - Chair Stone suggested that copies of the surveys should be printed out and that stacks should be available at some of the public facilities or laptops made available at the front desks of the Hunt Center and Cultural Center.
 - Member DiGiacomo inquired as to how the survey was being promoted noting via the Town's website might not reach all citizens as many do not regularly visit the Town's website. Interim Director Huffman explained it is also being advertised at Bass Lake and the Hunt Center.

- Member Joyce encouraged Parks & Recreation staff to remain visionary and pursue land acquisition for Parks & Recreation facilities regardless of survey results.
- Chair Stone generally feels most citizens seem to want items promised with the last bond.

Mim's Park would be a write-in on the survey.

Member Lloyd expressed concern that funding is used for substantial projects vs. a small band aid approach. Interim Director Huffman agreed but reminded the committee that funding decisions are determined by the Town Council.

VI. P&R FACILITY UPDATES

1. Bass Lake

Dam repair remains incomplete due to new safety regulations in place. Engineering studies for capacity and volume need to be completed to ensure dam meets current regulations. Town has two scheduling options if the dam needs to be enlarged. First option is to move forward and repair the parking lot with the FEMA funds and use the next 3-5 years grace period to bring dam into compliance. Second, Town can delay parking lot repairs and fix dam and parking lot in the same project. This approach preempts a need to close the parking lot again in the next 3-5 years to repair the dam if required. Again, Jewell Engineering is working on the calculations and everyone is hopeful the dam is compliant with new regulations. If the dam is in compliance, the Town is one step closer to bidding the parking lot repair. Chair Stone encouraged the Town to update the public after the study is complete as many citizens are disappointed and concerned with the project delays.

2. Sugg Farm Shelter

The Shelter design is complete and will be going to BOA next month. Triangle Land Conservancy also has to approve plans prior to bidding, however no additional delays are anticipated. A rough timeline for the shelter installation to begin is 4-6 months from BOA approval.

3. Carl Dean Greenway

1/3 mile of the Carl Dean Greenway has been shut down. Although 12" of stone was put down as a temporary solution, organizers for both the Half-marathon & Suggly sweater did not choose to use the trail for their race even with the temporary solution. The newest goal for the trail completion is April 1, however, completion is weather dependent and cannot be guaranteed by then.

4. Holly Springs Park and Recreation Director- Lee Ann Plumer.

Ms. Plumer will begin the week of Town Council retreat with her first Parks & Recreation Committee meeting scheduled for the Feb. 14 meeting. Chair Stone suggested rescheduling

the meeting to give the new director more time to get acclimated to the department before our meeting.

Member Cicora made a motion to move meeting to the 21st. Motion was seconded by member Martinez De Andino. **The next meeting has been moved to FEBRUARY 21, 2019.**

5. Town Council Annual Retreat

Annual Retreat will be held at Duke Inn, Friday, February 8 and Saturday, February 9. The retreat is public and all are invited.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Member Joyce is on the Tree Board and Member Martinez De Andino is on the Community Board. Both can update at our next meeting

VIII. CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

IX. ADJOURN

Motion: Member Martinez De Andino Second, Member Cicora

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.