



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2014 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Adams, Wanda Holloway, Cheri Lee, Stephane Daniel, Marty Buckwald, Jennifer Jones, Kari McCloud

ABSENT MEMBERS: Peter Koutroumpis, Ray Riordan, Winston Shade

STAFF PRESENT: Len Bradley, Adam Huffman, David Mallard, Tammy Sigafoose

CALL TO ORDER: Kevin called the meeting to order

APPROVAL OF 11/14/13 MINUTES: Meeting minutes approved

The committee welcomed Council member Cheri Lee. Cheri Lee will be the ex-officio member for the Recreation Advisory Committee. Cheri has replaced Linda Hunt Williams. Cheri Lee stated that she is very excited to be here.

Presentation: David Mallard, Recreation Programs Manager gave a Power Point presentation on programs offered. Highlights of the presentation: Hunt Center fitness membership growth with 650 plus members, statistics on participation of Freedom Friday trips for seniors, current Fitness classes offered including new classes, and projected growth of our Tennis programs.

Q&A: Kevin asked what the most popular time people come to use the Fitness Center. David answered, that the busiest times are 4:30 pm to about 5:30 pm then slacks off at around 7pm. David discussed membership fees for members and stated that we offer a free fitness orientation for new members.

Wanda asked if we offer a Wellness program and if we have anyone that can provide physical therapy to our members. David replied that he feels that our whole fitness program is a wellness program. With prior approval, we do allow physical therapists in the fitness room with members to follow a list of physical therapy programs. We also have 3 personal trainers available for our members. Members need to schedule an appointment with the trainer and pay fees at the front desk.

Kevin asked if we have charts available for our for members use. We do have charts available. At the old Hunt Center, we offered a "Coast to Coast" contest. Members would come in, do cardio and log miles. David would tally miles and make a chart with participants' progress. Discussions of possibly starting this contest again.

Kari asked if we offer any classes similar to "boot camp" David responded that we offer boot camp style classes. Unfortunately, we do not have room for larger equipment for "cross fit" however we can offer circuit training.

David explained that we do not “track” how many people use the indoor track but we have noticed there is a lot of usage when it’s cold. Parents are required to be with children the entire time while on the track. Children are not allowed to play in middle area unattended. Cheri commented that she is very thankful that the track is available to the public and that her family members use the track.

Kari asked about our senior program. We have many seniors that participate in our trips, fitness classes and use the track on a consistent basis. We offer a class called Fit Advantage that is taught by David and is geared towards our senior community. Cheri asked if we have seniors that play tennis. David replied, yes. Wanda commented that is nice that we offer senior exercise. These programs are therapeutic and provide a social outlet for our seniors. The Hunt Center is a good place to meet new people if anyone is new to the area.

The committee members thanked David for presenting an update of all the programs offered.

Update from Adam: We started our youth soccer registration on Monday for residents. We are experiencing average numbers for our Track-out and Before and After School program.

Womble: The Womble turf fields are now open with open play and we have multiple rentals including Ultimate Frisbee, Wake Futbol, Carolina Futbol and Triangle Futbol and several others. Our winter open play times are: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 6-8 pm, Saturdays 8-11 am, and Sundays, 1-4 pm. This schedule is posted on our website, at a kiosk near the field and posted on the fence. If we have rentals during our open play hours, one quadrant will be left open for open play. When the field is open, a field supervisor will be staffed. Wake Futbol rentals start next week at Womble. All rentals require a 48 hour notice in order to staff our field supervisors. During our open play time, we have noticed many families and students using the field. We have had several people jump the fence and try to use the facility when it is closed. Signs have been placed about trespassing laws. In the spring, we will offer more open hours of play. Our recreation soccer league starts in February. Recreational registration numbers mandate field availability at the turf field. We can now plan more playing time with use of the school fields. We are looking into better usage of fields for our league practices in order to accommodate more participants.

The tennis courts opened on Monday. Gates accessing the tennis courts are open 24/7. The public can play from dawn to 9pm. Lights will be on from dusk to 9:15 pm.

Kevin asked if we are seeing more revenue generated with the new turf field being open. Adam responded that since we kept the rental price reasonable, \$30 an hour for residents, we are experiencing a much higher usage than expected. Grass field rental is \$20 an hour for residents. Cheri shared issues concerning usage of other grass fields for league play. It is very helpful to have a field supervisor staffed to assist with any issues that may come up.

Stephane inquired about open play in the gymnasium. Adam replied that to use the gymnasium during open play, you need to be a current fitness member. There is no set schedule at this time for open play since our track-out program uses the gym throughout the day and especially during inclement weather. The gym is available for open play, Monday-Friday from 5-7 am, between 9-10 pm, Monday-Thursday and usually between the hours of 11 am and 1 pm during the week.

Cultural Center: The Carolina Puppet Theatre performed twice in November and once in December. On November 9th, Shadows of the Sixties-Four Tops Tribute performed at the

Cultural Center selling 184 tickets. At Main Street Christmas on December 13th, over 420 cups of hot chocolate were handed out. It was a successful event including lighting of our Christmas tree. On December 14th, Route 55 Jazz Orchestra performed selling 178 tickets, and the Buckingham's sold 135 tickets performing on December 20th.

Bass Lake: Bass Lake conference room had a total of 19 rentals for November and December. The nature themed birthday party packages are doing great. The last one scheduled on January 5th had 40 kids in attendance. Word is getting out about "60 Seconds or Less" with all ages inquiring about this new program.

Update from Len: Womble, Bass Lake and the Greenways are complete. On Saturday, January 25th, we are planning to have ribbon cutting ceremony. This date is not definite until we check the weather forecast. We will put this information on the website 5-7 days out. The Greenway from Bass Lake to Womble is 1.3 miles. The new loop is ½ mile. We now have 2 ½ mile loops. No negative comments have been reported except when we received calls and emails of the lights being on consistently at Womble. The lights needed to go through a "seasoning" period. The asphalt in front of the Womble band shell needs to have some filling done to make it look better. Our staff is building hand rails for the bridges on the greenways. We have received some calls from the Somerset development with concerns about making the connection. We project that the connection will be done sometime in the spring. We are working on the bridge loop at Bass Lake. Carolyn Couch at Bass Lake is putting together information handouts on the greenway loops. This will be a very convenient tool for the public to use to help assist the public in choosing which loop they want use depending on mileage. There will be a complete connection to North Main through Oak Hall to the shopping center.

We are receiving requests for event rentals at Suggs and have a wedding request for August. We are getting a policy in place which will include the renter bringing their own tents and port-a-potties.

All playgrounds are finished, but we still have punch list items. We have seen a lot of use with our playgrounds with the upgrades. We have placed skateboard and bicycle deterrents on railings at all playgrounds.

The Disc Golf Park at Jones should be complete in a few weeks. Receivers are in place but no baskets have been put up at this time. We have a great group of volunteers working on this project. We have paid them about \$1,800.

North Main: The contract has been signed for Phase I. On Monday, the contractors will proceed. There was activity today and you may see a silk fence up for erosion control. The grading that has been completed is where the athletic stadium will go. On April 1, Phase II work will begin. October 1 is the projected completion date for Phase I. Next month, there will be a bid for Phase II. In May of 2015, the baseball stadium should be ready for Coastal Plains. Council approved North Main Phase II— Projected completion is fall of 2015.

Kevin asked Len about the status for naming rights at North Main—Len said that we are continuing to work on this and we have interest from multiple sources. We should be receiving information from our consultants soon. We are not looking for charity; we are looking for benefactors and businesses to profit by getting their name publicized. It should generate more interest when people can visibly see the progress during the summer.

Cheri stated that North Main Street will be reformed and will have a great impact on our Town. Cheri also informed every one of the many projected businesses that will be at North Main. Jennifer noted that all the information is on our website.

The Council Retreat is scheduled for February 14 & 15 at Pinehurst. Cheri addressed the Committee and asked if anyone had any questions to be presented at the Retreat. Please email Len any questions that you would like presented. Len will update the Council and present statistics on how much we are building, how much area we are maintaining, what we are in charge of and how many we are serving. Len will also share this information with the community. Our Class system is accurate and keeps track of a lot of information. The retreat is open to the public.

The committee would like to invite Don Briscar, Cultural Center Manager to be the guest speaker for the March meeting.

Len informed the committee that we still have tickets for several of our upcoming shows at the Cultural Center. Please call Len if you are interested in attending any of the shows.

Kevin will contact Winston to discuss his commitment level with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

ADJOURN: There being no further items for discussion the meeting was adjourned.