



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2014 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Adams, Winston Shade, Kari McCloud, LeeAnn Plumer, Elizabeth Stone

ABSENT MEMBERS: Jennifer Jones, Wanda Holloway, Daniel Price, Marty Buckwald

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Huffman, Lori Puzak

CALL TO ORDER: Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

APPROVAL OF 10/09/2014 MINUTES: Motion to approve: LeeAnn Plumer; Second: Elizabeth Stone; Vote: Unanimous; Meeting minutes approved with no corrections.

PARKS AND RECREATION UPDATES:

Bass Lake- Bass Lake Park hosted the first Haunted Hayride on Saturday, October 25. The event had over 350 attendees resulting in two extra rides to accommodate the crowd. Next year staff will try to have two wagons and host the event over two nights. The Bass Lake loop has been completed with the opening of the Bass Lake Bridge. Staff will get the exact length of the loop next week. There were 9,000 hits on Facebook and the feedback has been very favorable.

Cultural Center- Pure Prairie League on Nov. 1st was sold out. The Creedance Clearwater Revival tribute was last weekend and only had 8 open seats. The next big show is the Karen Carpenter Tribute in December.

Hunt Center- The Wake Futbol Club Tournament was last weekend at the Womble Park soccer fields with approximately 1,800 participants. 38 teams totaling 500 participants are expected this weekend for a SWAC Tournament that begins on Friday and lasts through Sunday. CASL will be holding a tournament the following weekend, but no numbers are available at this time. Basketball has increased over last year by 9 teams. Games and practices will be utilizing gyms at the Hunt Center, Holly Grove Middle School and Holly Ridge Middle School.

NBC had a story on the apparent relationship between artificial turf crumb rubber and the occurrence of cancer in athletes. There was much discussion on the subject but all research thus far has been inconclusive.

Mr. Price asked about field availability and how decisions are made as to how practices and rentals are scheduled. The hierarchy of field use is as follows: Parks and Recreation programs and leagues; Parks and Recreation partners, which currently include Wake Futbol Club and the Holly Springs Salamanders; rentals (such as CASL); and then free-play. Turf field rentals are broken down by quadrant and are charged an hourly fee. Tournament rentals can be done by the day or by a 6 hour block. With the addition of the new fields we haven't had to utilize the Wake County School fields as much as in the past. Soccer was housed completely on the Womble turf fields this year. We may need to look at the joint-use facility agreement with Wake County Public Schools in the future. The main need for the agreement with the schools is for our basketball leagues as we only have the Hunt Center gym with an indoor basketball court.

Now that cameras are operational at the Womble Park turf fields, staff is looking at expanding free-play to include unsupervised hours monitored via webcam feeds at the Hunt Center front desk.

Parks and Recreation Events- Hollyfest was held on Saturday, October 25th and went extremely well. Mrs. Plumer stated that the businesses participating in the Business Expo were very happy. The estimated attendance based upon the number of cars parked in the general parking field, not including vendors, staff, and attendees that walked to the event from nearby neighborhoods, was 9,500. Plans for next year include more rides to alleviate some of the long lines that were experienced this year. The Holly Springs 4@4 was held on Saturday, October 11th. There were 220 runners participating in the event this year, which was less than last year's participation. This was the first year that the race was held at Sugg Farm which resulted in only one road impacted by the route. Stinson was closed for about 40 minutes. Heavy rain forced event organizers to shorten the award ceremony and the after party.

BOND PROJECTS UPDATES: The 1st 9 holes of the disc golf course at Jones Park should be open in the next 2-3 weeks. The back 9 holes are dependent upon acquiring some property to complete 3 of the holes. The NMAC tennis courts have one more layer of asphalt, but weather could be a factor since we are heading into the colder months. Crews started laying the turf on Tuesday, Nov. 11; however, we will not be able to open the fields until we have satisfied some requirements from NCDOT. Phase 2 is on schedule for the stadium. We should see some walls going vertical in the next couple of weeks.

Main Street Christmas: Mr. Adams will send out an email for volunteers to work the event. The past few years the committee has provided free hot chocolate in the lobby of the Cultural Center. Staff will need a commitment before Thanksgiving.

The December holiday dinner will be December 11th at 7:00 pm at The Olive Garden.

JANUARY TOPIC: Tour of NMAC. Mr. Huffman will know more about the lighting after a meeting with developers on Friday. The committee is also interested in seeing an inventory of the parks and recreation fields and the purposes for each.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mrs. Plumer asked if the non-smoking signs had been installed at the parks. Staff has installed small signs throughout the parks in strategic areas, but we are experiencing issues with teenagers peeling the sticker off the front of the sign. This has mainly been happening at Veteran's Park, but the individual has been identified and staff hopes to resolve the situation soon.

Mrs. Plumer asked if the contract between the Parks and Recreation department and the Holly Springs Salamanders is public record. Hr. Huffman stated that the contract has not been finalized and the two parties are currently in discussions.

ADJOURN: There being no further items for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.