



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2015 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Adams, LeeAnn Plumer, Jennifer Jones, Wanda Holloway, Daniel Price, Marty Buckwald, Elizabeth Stone

ABSENT MEMBERS: Kari McCloud, Winston Shade

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Cheri Lee

STAFF PRESENT: Len Bradley, Adam Huffman, Lori Puzak

CALL TO ORDER: Kevin Adams called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

APPROVAL OF 11/13/2014 MINUTES: Motion to approve: LeeAnn Plumer; Second: Marty Buckwald; Vote: Unanimous; Meeting minutes approved with no corrections.

PARKS AND RECREATION UPDATES:

North Main Athletic Complex- Adam Huffman

Phase 1 – The tennis courts need a second layer of asphalt which can't be completed until we experience warmer temperatures. The turf fields are complete. Tasks to be completed include fence installation, widening of North Main Street, and power for the lighting.

Phase 2 Baseball complex – The infrastructure is in progress, including the home and visitor dugouts, stadium seating, offices, training room and locker rooms. Phase 2 is on target for a substantial completion date in mid-May.

The extra dirt will be stored onsite near the 55 bypass to be used at a later time for the 55 connector and could possibly be sent to Apex for a skate park project.

The parking area will have about 1,100 spaces. Cheri Lee asked if we experience issues with parking in the neighborhoods will the town help with signage. The town only can do this if there is an ordinance passed. It was then asked if the HOAs could restrict parking in the neighborhoods. The point was made that if the HOA does not allow on road parking it would apply to the residents as well. Other traffic concerns that were addressed pertained to exiting the stadium during events. There will be a traffic light on Main Street and staff is anticipating that police officers will also be present to help direct traffic.

Wanda Holloway asked if concerts will be held at the stadium and, if so, where will they be setup. Staff is currently researching portable stages to be used in the baseball stadium on the artificial turf. It will be set up near home plate to take advantage of the seating area and limit the number of people required on the turf. Sugg Farm at Bass Lake Park is also a facility that could host concerts once we have seating and restroom facilities.

Staff has worked really hard with the contractors to keep the change orders at a minimum and to keep costs low. Once we have more work completed staff will aggressively pursue potential sponsors for stadium naming rights.

Bass Lake- Family Fun Nights continue to be well attended. During the month of December, the Christmas Make-n-Take program allowed parents to drop off their children and go shopping for the holidays. Many families took advantage of this and the children enjoyed the activities provided.

Cultural Center- Dawn Day's Tribute to Karen Carpenter was on December 20th and tickets were sold out. American Pride – A Tribute to the Statler Brothers is January 11 and as of this afternoon only 12 seats remain. Jeff Allen is scheduled for January 16 and has 57 seats remaining. VoicePlay, an a cappella group featured on The Sing-Off, is January 24th with 35 seats left. Juice Newton performs on February 13 and only 57 seats are available.

Hunt Center- Basketball is in progress with 9 more teams than last year. Mrs. Lee stated that basketball parents have commented that the customer service at the front desk has been really good and the score keepers are doing a good job. The referees are being really good with the little kids. The entire atmosphere around basketball has been very positive. Soccer registration began on Monday, January 5.

Womble Park- We hosted several tournaments over the last couple of months including Wake Futbol Club (WFC), Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC), and Capital Area Soccer League (CASL). The CASL tournament hosted teams from 34 different states and a team from Canada. This generated about 150 hotel rooms for the girls' tournament and a little over for the boys' tournament. The positive economic impact from these tournaments is a good indicator for the completion of the baseball complex at North Main and the Coastal Plain League (CPL). One thing staff has learned is that concessions are not profitable for these tournaments with the exception of SWAC. There was discussion about alternatives to staff-run concessions including allowing the tournament host to staff the concession stand and renting vendor spaces to established concessionaires.

Jones Park- The disc golf course is open for the first 9 holes. The back 9 holes will open once we can acquire land to complete 3 of the holes. The course has been very popular and we have received several compliments.

Parks and Recreation Events- The Suggly Sweater 5K and Fun Run was hosted by Hope Community Church (rental) at Sugg Farm at Bass Lake Park on December 20. There were 252 runners and they were able to raise \$10,000 for Meg's Smile Foundation. Representatives from Meg Smile Foundation mentioned that this event may take the place of the Holly Springs 4 @ 4 in October.

BOND PROJECTS UPDATES: Mrs. Lee stated that Town Council and staff is still working to acquire grant money from the Wake County Commissioners to help fund our projects.

FEBRUARY TOPIC: South Wake Conservationists Club

OTHER BUSINESS: Staff will schedule a tour of NMAC in April or May, possibly on a Saturday during the day.

ADJOURN: There being no further items for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.