



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2015 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Winston Shade, Howard Slinkard, Kari McCloud, Wanda Holloway, LeeAnn Plumer, Elizabeth Stone

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Kevin Adams, Jennifer Jones, Marty Buckwald

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Hank Dickson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lori Puzak, Adam Huffman

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. McCloud called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to delay approving April minutes due to Mr. Adams absence: Ms. Stone; Second: Mr. Slinkard; Vote: Unanimous. Motion to approve May minutes with no corrections: Ms. Plumer; Second: Ms. Holloway; Vote: Unanimous.

**BOND PROJECTS UPDATES:** The North Main Athletic Complex Phase 1, which is the tennis courts and the turf soccer complex, is very close to substantial completion. Outstanding items include split-rail fencing, additional lines for pickle ball and 10U on the tennis courts, and removing the remaining dirt left on the site. Opening day for the Holly Springs Salamanders was May 28<sup>th</sup> for Phase 2 of the project. Construction continues between games. Completion for everything inside the stadium, i.e. concessions, press box and locker rooms, is projected for late July. After the Salamanders' season is over there will be construction that cannot be done during the season. Ticket sales are good. Generally, weekend games are selling out and during the week sales are averaging about 700 tickets. Staff received some complaints from Oak Hall residents about the noise level for the June 4<sup>th</sup> game. Mr. Huffman spoke with a representative from Daktronics and learned that the noise level is impacted by many variables, including weather and the number of spectators. Ms. Stone stated that initially she was worried about the sound but generally she has been pleasantly surprised that it hasn't been an issue. Ms. Stone complimented staff on a job well done.

Mr. Huffman gave an overview of the Wake Futbol Club licensing agreement that will be voted on at Tuesday's town council meeting in response to a question from Mr. Shade regarding free play at the North Main Athletic Complex soccer fields. Wake FC's usage of the fields would limit the availability of free play; however, staff anticipates increasing free play at Womble Park since it is more centrally located. Ms. Stone asked if there is a plan to protect free play. Mr. Huffman stated that free play is a priority after league play and weekend tournaments. Mr. Slinkard asked how Wake FC was awarded the contract for NMAC. Mr. Shade commented that Wake FC was established about the same time that NMAC was first being discussed and they

were able to take advantage of that opportunity. Wake FC must keep their headquarters in Holly Springs as per the licensing agreement. The other local soccer organization, CASL, is competitive and recreational, which would compete with our recreation league.

Mr. Slinkard asked if the tennis courts at the North Main Athletic Complex would be free play. Staff will be hiring a part-time tennis programmer that will schedule league play and tournaments. When these are not scheduled, the courts will be open for free play.

**Bass Lake-** Birthday parties are going well. The Catfish Series Tournament had 4 registrants. Cabella's sponsored the event and donated the prizes. Campfire Cooking Class is a new program and had 10 registrants. Bingo is tomorrow. Staff is mulching the trail around the lake. Bass Lake Road is still closed for the bridge replacement, but the trail is open.

**Cultural Center-** The Route 55 Jazz Orchestra had their final concert for the season and sold 128 tickets. Stars Youth Theatre had 4 shows and sold 348 tickets. The Lockdown Blues Band kicked off the Outdoor Concert Series. There were approximately 200 people in attendance. This Friday they will host The Will McBride Group.

**Hunt Center-** Baseball and softball is winding down and all-stars selection will start soon. Soccer, football and cheerleading will be starting in the fall. Summer camp is full for the first few weeks and limited spaces are available for the remaining.

**Womble Park-** Staff was informed that lacrosse balls were small enough to go through the original fencing and netting at the Womble Park turf fields. Additional netting was installed at the turf field to prevent this.

**Parks and Recreation Events-** The Independence Day event is scheduled for Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. Staff has requested an additional \$2,500 in the budget to expand the fireworks display. We will have vendors, entertainment and rides. Staff is revising the exit strategy slightly to accommodate pedestrian traffic and streamline vehicular traffic.

**JULY TOPIC:** Several items will be covered at the July meeting including the 2015-16 budget, an inventory of park and facility usage, and electing 2015-16 officers. Motion to take the month of August off and resume regular meetings in September: Mr. Slinkard; Second: Ms. Holloway; Vote: Unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Mr. Slinkard stated that one of his main reasons for joining the advisory committee was to grow the park system and open space on the west side of the 55 bypass. The only park facility currently available is Harris Lake. He recommends that staff pursue purchasing property. He further stated that Morgan Park subdivision recently dedicated approximately 8 acres to the Town and he would like to see it developed.

**ADJOURN:** Motion to adjourn: Ms. Plumer; Second: Ms. Stone; Vote: Unanimous. There being no further items for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.