



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2011 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Adams, Stephane Daniel, Peter Koutroumpis, Marty Buckwald, Ken Henke, Linda Hunt-Williams, Kari McCloud, Wanda Holloway

ABSENT MEMBERS: Monica Fanjoy

STAFF PRESENT: Julia Meder, Len Bradley, Sabrina Thompson, Drew Holland, John Schifano, Chuck Simmons

CALL TO ORDER: Peter called the meeting to order

APPROVAL OF 7/14/11 MINUTES: Minutes approved

BOND REFERENDUM UPDATE & NEXT STEP: Len provided the board with copies of the new Hurrahs. He explained that there are over 121 different programs available for registration within this copy of Hurrahs as well as several upcoming special events. 18 of the programs are athletic programs but the rest are all leisure, cultural, and nature related. Len also showed the board the newest event brochure featuring 14 new shows at the Cultural Center. Len gave a power point presentation covering bond information. Highlights included information on the last bond passed for \$2 million in 1996. The bond funds helped to purchase property for Womble Park, phase 1 development, the Hunt Center, Jones Park, Bass Lake, and some funds were used as matching funds for grants received by the department. The \$2 million were spent over seven years. The presentation included current funding sources, program participant numbers, and increases in registrations and programs. Over the years, two master plans have been done within the department. The second master plan, Beyond the Green, includes data collected from residents regarding wants and needs for the community. The document also includes national standards for recreation needs per capita. Master plans for department parks are based on information collected at public meetings and through surveys. These plans are used to make recommendations to council. The presentation explained the timeline for the bond referendum. Spending of the bond funds has been broken down into two phases. Each phase includes a list of projects based on the data collected representing public input. Len expressed that the time for public input is not over and the phases can still be changed based on public need/want. Drew Holland, Finance Director, provided the board with chart of the Town's tax base growth since 2002. The chart provides estimated scenarios through 2018. A chart displaying the expense for a median home in Holly Springs per two different scenarios should a tax increase be necessary.

After the presentation, Peter asked staff to explain the next step and the board's role within the bond. Staff is currently working on a plan to provide information to the community within the next 90 days. Staff plans to include the board members in educating the public on what this bond would mean to the community. Chuck Simmons, Assistant Town Manager shared information with the board regarding upcoming events providing informational booth opportunities. Staff has compiled a list of opportunities for the board to get out into the public to share information about the bond. The presentation and other information regarding the bond will be available on www.hsparksbond.info shortly.

John Schifano, Town Attorney, provided some legal advice to the board regarding their role and how the board members should conduct themselves in providing information to the community and in working with the Town to serve as a liaison to the community.

Peter made a motion to put the support of the referendum to a vote. Kevin second. The board voted unanimously to endorse the bond. A letter to the Town Council will be drafted.

BOARD POSITIONS FOR 2011-2012: Kevin made a motion to nominate Peter as Chair, Kevin as Vice Chair, and Kari as Secretary. Nominees accepted nominations. The board voted on each nomination. All positions were passed unanimously.

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