



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2018 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gerry Martinez De Andino, Tom Joyce, Wanda Holloway, Alice Reese, Ken Cicora, Liz Stone, Mark DiGiacomo, Kevin Adams, LeeAnn Plumer

ABSENT MEMBERS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Cheri Lee, Tom O'Brian, Christine Kelly

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Huffman, Lauren Martin, Carolyn Couch

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Stone called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve: Member Cicora; Second: Holloway; Vote: Unanimous; Meeting minutes approved with no corrections.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No Public Speakers

**IV. STREAMLINING BASS LAKE DAY, TURTLEFEST AND SPRING FLING –
CAROLYN COUCH**

- A. Manager of Bass Lake Park, Carolyn Couch presented the scenario for combining Bass Lake Day, Turtlefest and Springfling to one festival held in the spring at Sugg Farm for the following reasons:
- a. Decline in attendance
 - b. Bass Lake day causes parking issues in neighborhood. Satellite shuttles help, but don't solve all problems.
 - c. Combining can double money invested in vendors & attractions
 - d. Combining can increase efficiency for staffing
 - e. Bass Lake is crowded with events in October.

Interim Parks and Recreation Director Adam Huffman clarified that smaller seasonal festivals such as Holly fest, Spooktacular, Haunted Hayride would not change.

B. Discussion:

- Committee Member Cicora began the discussion noting that parking is an issue and combining the festivals makes sense.
- Committee Member Adams agreed and asked additional questions which were answered by Staff Member Couch.
 - What is difference between Hollyfest and Springfest? Hollyfest spotlights businesses, Springfest spotlights kids with egg hunt and inflatables. Bass Lake portion of turtle fest would be included in Springfest. Springfling includes the morning yard sale and would be included in Springfest
- Chair Stone is passionate about Turtlefest and offered that moving Turtlefest to Sugg will be a loss to the event which has always been a family favorite specifically fearing the loss of the educational value of Turtlefest when combined with a festival with inflatables and rides. Parking complaints are valid but the festival is one day a year and does not seem a high priority issue.
 - Staff Member Couch added that parking on the neighborhood streets is problematic with the blockage of traffic flow impeding emergency vehicles.
- Committee Member Plummer asked what attendance numbers are and agreed with Chair Stone that losing nature programming is a negative to combining the festivals. Staff Member Couch answered that turtlefest drew 800 this year and the nature programming is available all the time at Bass Lake.
- Committee Member Martinez De Andino inquired if the decrease in attendance has caused a decrease in parking issues. Staff Member Couch responded that to the contrary, the parking issues have seem to cause the decrease in attendance although shuttles from Holly Springs Elementary School have been set up to assist with parking issues.
- Committee Member Holloway asked if the festival would be near the water if it was held at Sugg. Staff Member Couch responded that the exact location hasn't been identified yet.
- Committee Member Joyce added he thinks TurtleFest is a unique & standout event even for those attending without children and that perhaps the HOA of Sunset Ridge could be approached prior to the event.
- Committee Member DiGiacomo offered that to assist with the parking issues, the greenway master plan should prioritize linkage of Sugg Farm and Bass Lake so Sugg could be used for parking also and a short hike to Bass Lake could be part of the Turtlefest activities.
- Committee Member Reese added concern that combining the festivals to a spring date could cause scheduling issues as just last year SpringFling conflicted with scheduled snow make-up days for year-round schools.

C. Conclusion: Vote on recommendation tabled to next month. Committee Member Adams requested one slide outlining what occurs at Springfest and what occurs at Hollyfest to illustrate the differences in the two events.

V. GREENWAY MASTERPLAN SCOPE OF WORK – ADAM HUFFMAN

A. Interim Director Huffman summarized the minor changes made to the Greenway Masterplan Scope of Work by Alta.

- a. One stand-alone community workshop will piggy back onto the monthly Park and Rec. Advisory meeting to bring attention to P&R advisory Board as members have voiced in the past and to give P&R Board members a substantive opportunity for involvement which members have also requested in the past.
- b. Alta will only look at 4 corridors – this is what budget & time supports right now. Strategic corridors have been identified by the inventory analysis will identify the 4 corridors.
- c. This fee proposal will go to council in July 17, meeting if anyone would like to attend to answer questions.

VI. P&R PROJECT HIERARCHY (DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION) – ADAM HUFFMAN

At our May meeting, Interim Director Huffman requested that each Advisory Member offer their priorities for P&R projects, both large and small. A comprehensive list was compiled and ranked by Staff Member Martin. Each Member briefly went through their priorities and added comments or reasons why items were listed.

1. Member Cicora:
 - There should be a commitment to greenways if we are going to do the masterplan
 - Mims Park, seems to be important to downtown area
 - Park west of 55 again seems a high priority
 - Gym seems necessary
 - Bass Lake parking if possible because Bass Lake is a great feature
2. Member Adams:
 - Mim's – build momentum of downtown. Excited about development
 - Completion of Mim's Park, the Master Plan is collecting dust and part of the MP was a permanent location for Farmer's Market
 - Loud and clear request for additional park & recreation for specific groups
3. Chair Stone: Picks are based on repeated requests and justification for continued development on the west of 55 without input into recreation opportunity
 - Location for Permanent farmer's market
 - Park west of 55, inclusive playground and making recreation available throughout town.
 - Basketball facility at Ting (or if a park on the west side of town is built, it should include basketball.)

4. Member Reese: Priorities based on projects that would continue to set Holly Springs apart from neighboring communities so that the draw and revenue opportunities are created for the Town.
 - a. Commit to greenways as Member Cicora said & to carry forth the vision for a connected community.
 - b. Develop smaller parks west of 55 that satisfy recreational requests of citizens (dog park, inclusive playground and so on) linked by greenways
 - c. Incorporate opportunity to create a “skating loop” for winter recreation
 - d. Municipal golf course
5. Member Holloway:
 - a. Remembering a wish list generated by Town’s folks when MP was completed. All elements have been provided with the exception of the dock and paddle boats at Bass Lake.
 - b. Mim’s property designs by Alta were beautiful
 - c. Senior building would be very nice.
6. Member DiGiacomo:
 - a. Mims Park fits with economic and entrepreneurial plan for downtown, the water feature ties into it.
 - b. Focus on equitable development. The downtown serves all
 - c. Greenway system would be next although not represented in his list. A great way to think
 - d. Loves ice rink and golf course.
7. Member Plummer:
 - a. Purchase land west of 55 sooner rather than later to capture land for parks with rising costs of land.
8. Member Joyce
 - a. Mims Park important to complete downtown and incorporation of woods and house to celebrate history of downtown.
 - b. Greenways are important & thinking outside of the box with paths under powerlines and deviate from the standard design. May be an easier approach than typical.
 - c. Pocket parks (less than 5 acres)
 - d. Pollinator gardens in the existing parks. Volunteers to maintain.
 - e. New park on west of town, is necessary, but we cannot ignore downtown to complete the overall plan. The downtown is close enough for everyone.
9. Member Martinez Di Antonio
 - a. Finish downtown.
 - b. Outdoor amphitheater to keep constituents here
 - c. Sugg Farm – bring it to completion, it’s started but not finished like several other plans. Right now it is a various fragmented thing.
10. Interim Director Huffman summarized:
 - a. A workshop with Town Council will be held July 26th to discuss priorities and from there they will develop sub-committees to spearhead priorities.
 - b. Scoring the elements showed overlaps.

- c. Mims' feature has bid twice but no one has bid on it. Construction costs now have priced it out of the market at this time. The bmp originally designed was a requirement to handle stormwater from 20 properties in downtown to attract development.
- d. Carolina Brewing Company has planted pollinators at Ting in the beer garden.
- e. Mim's park and water feature are separate because the water feature is not necessary now. Some improvements are planned, including mulched trail and boy scout to build a bridge to enjoy trees. Mims park would be financed to build vs. using parks and rec. money.
- f. Planned upcoming development that falls in line with listed items include money from CAMPO to finish Utley Creek Greenway. DOT will help construct link in Woodcreek that 540 will soon divide.
- g. July 26th workshop at 6:00 with TC to look at prioritize taking something on list or their own list, give them details and discussion points to assist with their decision also.
 - i. Several members all expressed interest in attending.

VII. VOTE TO DETERMINE JULY OR AUGUST RECESS – ELIZABETH STONE

Committee voted to take a summer break for July as most want to attend the July 26 workshop.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Interim Director Huffman presented upcoming dates and events for July:
 - Town Council Meeting July 17, 2018 to present Greenway master plan
 - July 5th celebration 5:00 pm at Sugg Farm
2. Working to update the weather policy to provide most accurate and timely updates.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Thanks to LeeAnn! We will miss you!

X. ADJOURN

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMITTEE MEMBER CICORA, COMMITTEE MEMBER HOLLOWAY, SECOND. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:42.