



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2018 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Joyce, Wanda Holloway, Alice Reese, Ken Cicora, Liz Stone, Mark DiGiacomo, Len Lloyd

ABSENT MEMBERS: Gerry Martinez De Andino

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

STAFF PRESENT: Adam Huffman, Lauren Martin, Gina Clapp

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Stone called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

No Public Speakers

IV. GINA CLAPP, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING WILL DISCUSS THE NEW TREE ORDINANCE.

Town Council had tasked the Planning Department to achieve designation of Tree City USA. The Planning Department has completed 2 of the 4 required tasks, forming a tree board is one of the remaining tasks. In many municipalities, the Tree Board is a derivative of the Parks and Recreation Board which brought Ms.Clapp to the TOHS P&R Committee meeting to gather input on oversight of board, purpose & responsibilities

Below is a brief summary of salient points from Ms. Clapp's Power Point Presentation.

- Local Tree Cities with Tree Boards include, Apex, Cary, Wake Forest & Raleigh
 - Cary – 10-member Board which extends beyond Tree City USA requirements. Has 4 technical experts. Provide input to TC staff
 - Wake Forest – 9-member Board including an elected official & staff member. Very extensive and detailed. Has their own plan for urban forestry. Has authority to relieve developer from tree protection ordinance
 - Raleigh – 15-member tree board which is a sub-committee of P&R board

Salient points discussed:

- Ms. Clapp acknowledged that specific neighborhoods do maintain the trees adjacent to their homes, while Public Works maintains the town's street trees. The current inventory of town's street trees is 13,000. A Street tree list has been adopted and is updated regularly.
- First task would be for the Tree Board to help decide what trees to use to replace dead street trees.
- Arbor Day celebrations can be as simple as tree planting events or set up a table at Farmer's Market.

Park & Recreation Advisory Committee recommendations:

- Majority of the P&R Committee do not feel this is in their expertise and does not really belong in Parks & Recreation. However, a P&R liaison and planning liaison on Tree Board might be a good solution.
- Apex's model is well suited to Holly Springs with educated citizens, parks and recreation members and planning board members.
- Everyone on the Board should have a specialization.
- Tree Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance should prevail Tree Board should only advise when necessary.

V. KEY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING CONSIDERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR POSITION

Chair Stone led item for Randy Harrington, Town Manager. (Interim Director Huffman excused himself to free committee for discussion)

Each member voiced attributes they believed important for new Director. Chair Stone reported those qualities to Town Manager, Randy Harrington.

VI. DIRECTORS REPORT

Highlights:

Hurricane Florence did not damage P&R facilities other than leaking at Ting.

Cultural Center:

- Clean Comedian Steve Brogan this Friday at 7:30pm
- Book Festival featuring NC's Poet Laurete this Saturday 11am-6pm

Sugg Farm Park:

- Hippie Tribe Fest upcoming

Hunt Center

- Basketball registration in progress
- Fancy water bottle filler will be installed at Hunt Center

Greenways

- Carl Dean Greenway will be repaired by the end of Nov. Hard pack rolled stone will be in place for ½ marathon. Access will be restored for the event. Suggly Sweater will also not be impacted.

Bass Lake:

- NC Dam Report is overdue and final report needed to go out to bid for the repair work. Sequence for repair: 1. Stream bed repair with gabion walls. 2. Layers of stone to pull stream down. 3. Repairing trail. 4. Asphalt parking lot.
- Bridge is structurally sound, the stream channel moved to where trail is but cannot be put back in place until all reports/studies.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Topics for future meetings:

Ting Park. Committee would like to have a representative of the Salamanders or Durham Bulls & Wake FC come in to address the history of the partnership with Wake FC, and what does Wake FC bring to the partnership? What else can the facility be used for? How can we utilize Ting better?

Next Meeting:

Committee will walk the Mim's Park Site to get a better understanding of the Master Plan. The plan that was presented to Town Council at the workshop was new to several members of the committee.

VIII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn: Vice Chair Cicora; Second: Member DiGiacomo.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm..