



Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Aug. 8, 2019

7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Cicora, Alice Reese, Liz Stone, Mark DiGiacomo, Susan Smith, Jason Guetgemann, Molly Sapienza

ABSENT MEMBERS: Lenny Lloyd, Gerry Martinez De Andino

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom O'Brien

STAFF PRESENT: LeeAnn Plumer, Adam Huffman, Kristen Denton, Justin Burcham

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order 7:07 by Chair Stone

A. Welcome New Committee Members:

New committee members Susan Smith, Jason Guetaemann and Molly Sapienza were welcomed by Chair Stone. Brief introductions were made by all members.

B. Agenda

C. Minutes Approval: Motion to approve June 11, 2019 minutes: motioned, Ken Cicora seconded, Mark Di Giacomo

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. Presentations

Senior Programs – Justin Burcham, Program Specialist since 2017

Justin provided a power point presentation overviewing Senior Programs.

Highlights are as follows:

- 22% of HS population is over 55.

- The Senior programming “triangle” provides of Social, Active & Informative opportunities.
- Programs continue to be on the rise. Growth of Senior Programming includes yoga, 5 days/week of physically active classes. Goal is to create a community that welcomes them on a daily basis.
- Right now, space is at a premium and is the only factor that limits expansion. Hunt Center (physical activity) and Community Center (cards, social aspects) Bass Lake, bingo & archery
- Social Programming (trips) are quite popular also with neighboring communities that do not offer senior programming.
 - Jamestown, Williamsburg trip sold out within one week of HURRAHS release.
 - Spring 2020 – Gatlinburg
- Seniors = “Kids but with wrinkles” Wake County Senior Games is a huge ask.
- Innovative/Adaptive Programming:
 - Senior Tap Classes
 - Educational Series Pilot Programs - Hunt Center Tuesday 9:00 am small businesses come to give a presentation about what they do.
 - Technology Workshops – assisting with smart phones and computers.

IV. REPORTS

- A. Council Update – Tom O'Brien
 - a. Town Council granted approval for hospital (approx. 1.5 years opening) and Lowe's Home Improvement Store
 - b. Update from 540 all acquisitions are in final stage. Need to acquire 34 homes still before end of year and forecasting to be on track.
 - i. Reviewed impacts to those residents at the Town Council meeting.
- B. Tree Advisory Committee – Vacant Position
- C. Land Use and Community Character Team – Gerry Martinez De Andino
 - a. In Gerry's absence Director Plumer presented. The draft recommendation is in final review after public input for final recommendation to Town Council in Sept.

D. Operations Update – Assistant Director Adam Huffman

a. Department: Administrative specialist position should be filled soon.

b. Facilities:

- Bass Lake:
 - Received a bid for stream bed restoration project. 6-8 month lead time for construction work. Scope of work includes gabion walls around bend after dam and pools to decrease turbidity. Parking lot will be last phase of construction and bridge will reopen with completion of project.
 - Designed for 50-year flood as required by state. The hurricane was a +100 yr event.
 - No geo-graphical limit on bidders.
 - Fishing tournament coming up with prizes.
- Sugg:
 - Shelter will re-bid in Aug. due to no bidders the first time. July 5th – dog performances this year rather than the parachutists due to logistical challenges faced with evening thunderstorms in the past.
- Carl Dean Greenway:
 - Feasibly, the trail could be used right now. Contractor must address punchlist items identified prior to Town accepting greenway.
 - Final walkthrough anticipated before the end of the month.
- Jones Park, Veterans Park & Carrington Greenways–
 - repaved greenways in June. Punchlist items still need to be addressed.
- Hunt Center
 - Good feedback on the new speaker system and ceiling.
 - One employee will be receiving Park & Recreation Certification this month.
- Cultural Center
 - Two employees receiving Park & Recreation Certification this month.
- Ting
 - Mound feedback has been positive even from Salamanders.
 - End of season feedback on pairing of club soccer. Indications are they will return next year.
 - New athletic facility identified for Ting has been pulled back into a broader study and the future master plan.
- Veteran's Park Fishing Pier:

- Railings require sanding to remove graffiti. Permanent staining is not in the plans. Not experiencing more vandalism than normal.
- Master Plan
 - RFP for Master Plan is being drafted at this time.
- Athletics:
 - Soccer is still exploding and due to space/time limitations at Womble, an expansion to the Ting fields is still a consideration. Fall has lower attendance and will not need to move but anticipate the need to move in Spring.
 - New netting getting put up between 12U and 8U fields to prevent kicks on goal from going into other games.
 - Football: Flag football numbers are down slightly. Tackle leagues are about the same.
 - Adult softball is slightly down.
 - Cheer is the same.

V. NEW BUSINESS-CHAIR STONE

A. Election of New Officers

- a. Chair – Member Cicora nominated Liz Stone, and acknowledged her hesitancy due to fear of maintaining status quo. Seconded by Mark DiGiacomo - all voted in favor.
- b. Vice Chair Ken Cicora nominated by Mark DiGiacomo, seconded by Chair Stone. All voted in favor.
- c. Secretary - Alice Reese nominated by Chair Stone & seconded by Mark DiGiacomo. All voted in favor.
- d. Tree Advisory Committee Representative: Susan Smith volunteered.

Chair Stone echoed previous discussions stating that voting for Officers should not occur at the new members first meeting.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION SHARE

- A. New HURRAHS published which has the entire year of registration dates

- B. Status of recommendations made by Committee for the remaining bond money-Vice Chair Cicora. Director Plumer responded that allocation of the funds would be in-line with the top three priorities recommended by the Committee: Acquiring parkland, phase I development and connecting greenways.
- a. Additional uses for Ting such as concerts. Budgeting for larger events and egress are limiting factors currently. Options to address egress are being evaluated. Committee encouraged staff to continue the investigation as larger events would be a good use of facility.
 - b. Potential improvements for Sugg (dog park and nature play area) were 3rd priority on the list. The likelihood of implementation with remaining funds is small.
- C. Committee Agendas-Chair Stone–Encourages committee members to bring up items and submit to LeeAnn and/or Liz for inclusion on the agenda but reminded members that isolated incidents may not become agenda items but should be brought to the attention of Staff as soon as possible so they can be as pro-active as possible. Draft agenda goes out early, but suggestions for additional topics are welcome.

For new members, the Secretary sends out the next meeting reminder approximately two weeks ahead of the meeting with draft minutes, request agenda items. Agenda items are welcome until the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Weightier items may take the staff more time to research before coming to committee to ensure items get deserved attention.

Potential topics include staff presentations, group presentations such as an update from Salamanders and/or Western Wake Tennis.

VII. ADJOURN

Motion: Vice Chair Cicora

Second: Mark DiGiacomo

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.