



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2012 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

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

ABSENT MEMBERS: Marty Buckwald, Monica Fanjoy

STAFF PRESENT: Julia Meder, Len Bradley

CALL TO ORDER: Peter called the meeting to order

APPROVAL OF 2/9/12 MINUTES: Minutes approved.

RETREAT UPDATE: Len provided an update from the Town Council retreat held on March 3, 2012. Board members were provided with copies of the narrative and power point presentation Len gave Council at the retreat. The presentation included background information regarding the history of the first bond referendum in 1996 and how funds from that bond were used. The presentation also included a summary of last year's Council decision to move forward with the bond referendum. Examples and an explanation of the department's efforts to educate the community and the marketing campaign "Your Path, Your Parks, Your Vote" were shown on several slides within the presentation. Len reminded the Council that plans for these bond funds were split into two phases. Len shared with Council three possibilities for projects within the first phase. The first phase would include completion of Womble Park, completion of Jones Park, construction of greenways with a partnering grant from Wake County, construction of a dog park, and the possibility of a long-term lease of land from Progress Energy to create a large area of flat athletic fields. This scenario would include a one cent tax increase and would cover \$5.1 million of projects. The second scenario excludes the possibility of partnering grants and donated land. This would include a two cent tax increase and cover \$8 million of projects. These projects would include completion of Womble Park, completion of Jones Park, construction of greenways, and the construction of a stand-alone gymnasium. The third scenario would move all proposed projects back into the Capital Improvements Plan where they would be prioritized along with all town projects and remain unfunded by the bond, therefore not including any tax increase. The board asked Len to share how Council felt about this presentation. Council did not make any decision at the retreat and after much discussion, requested more information and will make a decision on how to proceed at a later date. Advisory board members had much discussion sharing their thoughts on how the Council should proceed. Peter suggested the board express to Council their support to move forward with bond spending and make a presence. Peter requested that the board meet with Council to discuss bond spending and asked Len to assist in finding out the next steps in arranging a meeting. Peter will reach out to Linda Hunt Williams to touch base regarding the retreat.

MIMS PROPERTY UPDATE: The board was provided with a packet of information including a power point presentation of the proposed Mims property scenarios. A public meeting was held in February. These scenarios were shared with the public and input was collected. The board was provided with a summary of the public input collected at the meeting. The first proposed plan includes an ecological park with open space, greenway trails, and a learning center. The second proposed plan includes an adventure park with zip lines, tree houses, elevated playgrounds, rope courses, a courtyard with an amphitheater, trails and a home for the farmer's market. The third proposed plan includes a lot of open space, a grand plaza, trails, an ice rink, and bio filtration. There is a strong possibility that the final plan will be a mix of these plans based on public input. This project is currently unfunded and would require either funding from the bond or inclusion in the Capital Improvements Plan.

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