

## **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes**

**April 27, 2009**

**Members Present:** Sandy Thomason, Tom Hodges, Lacusia Green, Jim Thompson, David Faircloth, Lisa Curran, Tom Parmelee, Tom Shipman, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

**Members Absent:** David Jerosé.

**Staff Present:** Susan Simpson, Parks and Recreation Director

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Sandy Thomason called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Tom Shipman made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Thompson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Ms. Simpson asked to add to New Business - item 7d - a discussion of parking at E. Carroll Joyner Park requested by David Jerose..

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Simpson gave an athletic update. Youth baseball and softball drafts are complete and the T-Ball and Coach Pitch coaches meeting will be Thursday night. Games for older leagues will begin the week of May 4. The Dream League had their opening day on Saturday, April 25. The league is for youth ages 5-17 with special needs. Mayor Vivian Jones threw out the first pitch and Woolie Bull was on hand to greet players. Ms. Simpson encouraged members to attend one of the games during the season. They play at Tyler Run at 10 a.m on Saturdays.

Ms. Simpson reported on the programs for the month of April. There were sixteen classes offered during the month with 133 participants. There were three special events held during the month with 1305 participants enjoying puppet shows at Heritage Elementary and at the Herb Festival. Summer camp registrations are going well.

Director Simpson reported that maintenance crews have completed fertilizations of fields and mowing and dragging and lining for ball games is underway.

Ms. Simpson reported on Holding Park Pool. The pool was drained the first of the month and repairs to the main drain and returns and on the leak have been repaired. The pool was cleaned, power washed and painted. Water and chemicals will be added soon. The repairs to the drains are to bring the pool in compliance with the Virginia Graham Baker Act. Commissioner Stinnett mentioned that some pools are going to a saline, salt-water solution. Ms. Simpson stated that she didn't know much about that but would look into it.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for the month of March was 5065. This is up by 1143 over last March. Sandy Thomason and Jim Thompson asked if we

could attribute this increase to anything in particular? Ms. Simpson stated that some might have been make-up basketball games, but she thinks that more people are finding out about the center.  
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## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairperson Sandy Thomason mentioned the CBM teleconference on May 7 at NC State University. She asked who would be attending? Ms. Simpson said that Tom Hodges and David Jerosse had responded to her and would be attending. Tom Parmelee and Lacusia Green both said that they would like to attend as well. Ms. Simpson said that she would send the registration form and the fee.

Ms. Thomason also gave a report on the Taylor Street park grand re-opening. She said that it was well attended by neighbors, the Town Board and our own board members. About 65 attended. She mentioned that several citizens had told her they had seen the taping of the park opening on Channel 10. Ms. Simpson said that she had seen it several times and that it was usually at the half hour. She also mentioned that the "Focus on Wake Forest" taping of the park opening would be playing in May. Jim Thompson asked if this was on the website? Ms. Simpson said that she was not sure, but could check.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Simpson gave an update on Joyner Park Phase I. The completion date is now set for June. The snowy and rainy winter and spring has slowed construction, especially on the dam. The Six Sundays in Spring concert series was moved to Holding Park. Both of the first two concerts have worked well there. Most of the paving of trails is complete and work on the bathrooms is nearing completion. Work on the performance garden and the maintenance building are moving much slower. Ms. Simpson noted that a grand opening for this park will likely take place in September.

Director Simpson mentioned the CBM Forum in Greensboro. The dates are August 13-15. Tom Hodges will be serving as Chair of the annual event. She encouraged members to attend. Jim Thompson stated that it was very interesting and he learned a lot from last years forum. Tom Hodges and David Jerosse have committed to go again this year. Tom Parmelee said that he would like to attend and would check his calendar.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Simpson gave a brief report on the budget for FY 2009-10. This year department heads and staff were asked to “hold the line” in expenditures. No new positions will be coming our way and the budget will be somewhere around \$2.5 million. Last year’s budget was \$2,8 million. The difference will be in capital expenditures.

Tom Hodges brought up lobby day at the NC Legislature. He will be attending with other Parks & Recreation members from across the State to talk with legislators concerning the park funds and the need to keep them in place. Ms. Simpson said that Wake Forest had received approximately \$4 million over the past 5-7 years from these funds. The day is Wednesday, April 29 and Mr. Hodges encouraged anyone else who could to come along too.

Director Simpson mentioned that our May meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 25 which is a holiday. Typically the meeting is moved to Tuesday of that week. Sandy Thomason asked for a show of hands of who could attend on Tuesday, May 26. There would be a quorum, so the meeting will be changed.

The last item for discussion was emailed by David Jerosé concerning overflow parking at E. Carroll Joyner park. Ms. Simpson stated that there are 170 spaces in the current phase of construction. Once grass is established and if the park is dry, then some overflow parking in the grassy areas should not be a problem.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

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Sandy Thomason, Chairperson