

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

January 25, 2010

Members Present: Sandy Thomason, LaCusia Green, David Jerose, Alicia Knowles, Jim Thompson, Lisa Curran, Doug Scott, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

Members Absent: Tom Hodges and Tom Parmalee.

Staff Present: Susan Simpson

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

ACTION: Lisa Curran made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Thompson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

WELCOME – NEW MEMBERS

The current members took a few minutes to introduce themselves to our new members. They told who they were and their interest in serving on the board and how long they had served. The new members, Alicia Knowles and Doug Scott, introduced themselves and told a little about their interest.

ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Simpson gave an athletic update. Youth basketball is underway with 734 boys and girls participating. This is up by about 100 participants. Games are three weeks in and things are going well in all locations. Youth baseball and softball registration will begin February 1-26. The department had to cancel their on-line registration with the current company and hope to be up and running with a new company for this registration period.

Director Simpson reported on the programs since our last meeting in November. Twenty programs were offered with 199 participants. Three special events took place with 829. One event was the annual "Calls From Santa" which was a big hit again with volunteers calling approximately 302 children.

Maintenance crews have over-seeded Smith Creek soccer fields. They assisted with finishing the picnic shelter at Ailey Young Park with the Eagle Scout candidate. They have also remodeled the kitchen at the Wake Forest Community House. For the benefit of the new members, Ms. Simpson explained that the department is also over public buildings and oversees any repairs, maintenance, outside contracts, and capital projects for the Town's twenty buildings.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for November and December were 2686 and 3794 respectfully.

Ms. Simpson reviewed the year-end report for 2009. She briefly went over the numbers for athletics, programs, the pool, and the community center. Over 62,000 adults and children were served. Ms. Simpson also stated that these numbers are just those that the department can count. We have no way presently to gauge how many visit our parks and greenways. There were a number of accomplishments in the year with Joyner, Taylor Street, and Heritage High School parks opening. Lisa Curran asked about the Dunn Creek greenway and making the connection to Franklin Street. Ms. Simpson stated that the department will be working on that with the Planning Department.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandy Thomason shared with the board letters of appreciation to long time members Tom Shipman and David Faircloth who did not choose to be re-appointed for another three year term. The letters thanked them for their contributions over the years and their support of recreation and the community. The letters will be mailed to both by Ms. Simpson.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Simpson gave an update on the playground equipment for children with special needs. The equipment is here and the department is waiting for decent weather to have the company install the pieces. She reminded all of what elements would be there and that the greater opportunity would be during the Phase II of E. Carroll Joyner Park. Ms. Simpson told the board that she has already had some preliminary discussions with the architect about three intergenerational playgrounds for seniors and children with special needs.

David Jerosé gave a tennis update. The Wake Forest Area Tennis Association has 250 members on email. Avery Cup is beginning soon. They are looking at the possibility of hiring a Tennis Director. They are hosting a tournament in May and looking at starting a "Quick Start" program for kids to learn the game.

Ms. Simpson reported on the CBM Forum and planning meeting in Tom Hodges absence. She and Mr. Hodges agreed to stay on the planning committee and they are headed to a meeting in Greensboro on Thursday. The Forum is scheduled for August 12, 13, and 14. Mr. Hodges will take the list of topics from our members to share with the committee. He and Ms. Simpson will keep the group posted as the date draws closer.

NEW BUSINESS

Sandy Thomason appointed David Jerosé, Jim Thompson, and LaCusia Green to the nominating committee for 2010 officers. She asked Jim Thompson to serve as chair of the group. They will bring nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair to our next meeting for a vote. David Jerosé asked if there were restrictions in having the same slate for the coming year? Ms. Simpson said that the by-laws do not prohibit multiple terms for officers.

Ms. Simpson told the board that the Mayor's State of the Town address is scheduled for Monday, February 22 which is our meeting night. In the Mayor's remarks she will be mentioning Joyner Park and wants to recognize the Advisory Board for all their efforts in making the park a reality. Ms. Simpson asked the board if they would be willing to cancel their meeting and as many members as possible attend the State of the Town address. Jim Thompson made a motion to cancel our February meeting and members attend the address. LaCusia Green seconded the motion which carried. The tickets are \$15 and on sale at Town Hall, the Chamber and on line.

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ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Sandy Thomason, Chairperson