

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

April 26, 2010

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

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Susan Simpson

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

ACTION: Tom Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes. LaCusia Green seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Simpson gave an athletic update. Youth baseball/softball drafts and coaches meetings are almost completed. Approximately 1200 are participating in the spring & summer leagues. The Dream League began its season this past Saturday. Two teams are playing at Tyler Run Park. The Dream League is for youth with special needs. Older league games will begin soon. Ms. Simpson reported the good news that the department would not be using soccer fields at Smith Creek to play any T-ball games this year. With the new fields coming on line at Heritage High School, leagues are all able to play on baseball/softball fields. Adult leagues are coming to a close in the next few weeks.

Director Simpson reported on the programs since March. Sixteen classes have been offered with 114 participating. The department offered three special events with a total of 945 enjoying puppet and magic shows.

Maintenance crews have been working on ballfields for the spring and summer season. Mowing has increased at all the parks. The large section of the dog park is slated to re-open on Monday, May 3. Grass has come up nicely in the area and some new trees were planted.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for March was 5883.

David Jerose asked about the swimming pool. Ms. Simpson reported that it would open on Memorial Day weekend and remain open only on the weekends until traditional school is out for the summer. Swim lesson schedules will be available in mid-May and registration starts June 1.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sandy Thomason gave a report of the CBM Teleconference that was held Tuesday, April 13. She said that Wake Forest served as the speakers for the event with Tom Hodges, Mark Williams, and Susan Simpson serving on a panel. There were 13 sites around the state and each site was given about 30 minutes to come up with issues/questions and then the panel tried to address them. Ms. Thomason said that what struck her was how fortunate we are in Wake Forest. We have good leadership and support from management and the Town Board and a great advisory board with committed members. David Jerose added that politics came up as a topic and it seemed that no matter the size of the Town these were always issues. LaCusia Green reiterated Tom Hodges comments that night about good leadership. Tom Hodges said that he enjoyed being asked to present and he hope we gave good /helpful information. Mr. Hodges took a few minutes to plug the CBM Forum in Greensboro this year August 12-14. Commissioner Stinnett said it was her first time going and that she though it was very informative and encouraged anyone that could attend to do so. Ms. Simpson passed around a tentative agenda for the conference and also encouraged any member to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

David Jerose gave an update from the Wake Forest Area Tennis Association. He told the board that between 150-175 participated in the spring leagues this year and that probably would go up to 250 for the summer. He asked Ms. Simpson about trash cans and windscreens for the new courts at Heritage High School. Ms. Simpson stated that the association could buy them if possible. The Town had already spent its funds for the park. Any improvements would need to be submitted to Wake County Public Schools through a Facility Modification form. Mr. Jerose also informed the board that the association was interested in hiring a full time Tennis Director and that he didn't think Moses Akor was interested in the job.

NEW BUSINESS

The only item of new business was a follow-up discussion of a Technology free weekday or weekend. Sandy Thomason brought this idea up at our last meeting and asked all members to think about ways to encourage area residents to put down the cell phones, computers, etc. and get out and enjoy their community. Ms. Simpson stated that the members would need to come up with a plan: when, where, how to encourage participation, track hours, etc. Sandy Thomason mentioned pledge forms and Jim Thompson and Lisa Curran said it would be good to tie this into the Fourth of July celebration. Sandy Thomason asked if she could form a committee. Ms. Simpson stated she could. The following members were appointed or volunteered: Sandy Thomason, Lisa Curran, Doug Scott, and Alicia Knowles. LaCusia Green and Tom Parmelee said that they thought the focus should be more on health and a day of activity. Sandy Thomason mentioned partnering with the Greenway Advisory Board if we focus on activity. She asked about publicizing an event and meeting with Bill Crabtree. Ms. Simpson asked her to send some possible dates to meet and she would set something up.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Sandy Thomason, Chairperson