

## **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes**

**August 25, 2008**

**Members Present:** Earl Creutzburg, Tom Hodges, Sandy Thomason, Tom Shipman, Lisa Curran, David Jerosé, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

**Members Absent:** Joel Smith, Jim Thompson, and David Faircloth.

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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Earl Creutzburg called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Tom Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes. Sandy Thomason seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

None.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Simpson gave an athletic update. Over 500 boys and girls will be participating in the fall baseball/softball leagues this fall. Games are scheduled to begin the first full weekend in September. Six teams are participating in the men's Softball league this fall. The next big sport is youth basketball with registration set for October. David Jerose asked about Soccer. Ms. Simpson stated that CASL runs soccer here in Wake Forest and the department allows the use of the fields at Smith Creek and WF-R Middle School. Tom Shipman asked if the senior baseball teams were playing with Raleigh again this year. Ms. Simpson stated that our three teams would be participating with them again this year.

Ms. Simpson reported on the programs for the month. Six classes/camps were offered since our last meeting with a total participation of sixty three (63). Classes will be starting back up for the fall about the second week in September. The fall brochure is out and registrations are coming in at a good pace.

Director Simpson reported that maintenance crews are working on the ballfields and mowing of all sites. They will be working on repairs of a section of steps in Miller Park. They will also be working with CASL this winter on repairs to field one and two at Smith Creek.

Ms. Simpson reported that Holding Park pool closed on Sunday, August 24 for the season. One final session of swim lessons was held in August with 89 children participating. Sandy Thomason asked if there was a last rush at the pool before it closed. Ms. Simpson reported that they do not generally have a "last rush" at the pool. Once business drops after July 4, then it just continues to fall off into August. The last few weeks the average attendance was about 40. Sandy Thomason asked if there was any more news on an indoor pool facility? Ms. Simpson said that she had heard nothing more, but felt that it was still on the back burner. Several members asked about just putting a bubble over the existing pool. Ms. Simpson stated

that if the Town would consider an indoor aquatic facility on that site it would be in the best interest of all to do away with the current pool and start with a new modern facility. Parking  
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would also be an issue at the Holding site. With year round operations, the seminary lots would not be available like they are during the summer.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for the month of July was 4236. This is 500+ more than last July.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Earl Creutzburg thanked David Jerose, Jim Thompson, and Tom Hodges for attending the CBM Forum in Greensboro. Tom Hodges will serve as Chair of the Forum next year. The board is very proud of his accomplishments and will support his efforts. Mr. Creutzburg congratulated Ms. Simpson on winning the Jack "Swede" Frauson professional award at the forum. Ms. Simpson thanked the board for nominating and supporting her.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

David Jerose reported that the draft of the bicycle plan is on line for review. He also mentioned that Raleigh and Wake Forest's bike plans will be interconnected and that there is a meeting for the Raleigh plan on Tuesday, August 26 from 4-7 p.m. at the Sertoma Arts Center for comments. Mr. Jerose also mentioned the bike rodeo that the Planning department is holding in conjunction with the bike race on Sunday, September 14. The rodeo will be from 12-3 p.m. in the parking lot across from the Forks Cafeteria. The Kiwanis club is volunteering to assist but other volunteers are welcome. The department got a \$500 grant to give away bike helmets.

David Jerose gave a report on the CBM Forum. He said that the sessions were very informative and that the speaker at the banquet was excellent. He mentioned the "water" and "child obesity" sessions in particular. Sandy Thomason asked Tom Hodges if anyone from another Wake County municipality came to the forum? Mr. Hodges said that several from Cary and one from Holly Springs came for the day Friday.

Ms. Simpson gave an update on the Joyner Park Phase I project. The pre-construction meeting for the maintenance and restroom buildings was held this past month. Work is still progressing with completion set for late December or early January.

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Taylor Street park plans for the renovations were approved by the Planning department this week. The picnic shelter and the playground equipment have been ordered. Mark Robinson will put together specifications for demolition, grading, and planting and bids will be solicited. If all goes well, the park will be completed by the end of the year.

Ms. Simpson reported that the soccer fields at Heritage High School had not been seeded yet due to some problems with DWQ and City of Raleigh over size of pipes. Baseball/softball fields were just seeded about a month ago. It was disappointing to hear that we have lost a full growing season on the soccer fields and part of one on the baseball/softball fields. We may not be able to use them in the fall of 2009. David Jerose asked about sending a letter to Raleigh to help move the project along. It was decided that a letter from the advisory board would not help since the damage is already done. He indicated that he might make a call on his own.

The last item of old business was a discussion of the boards participation in "Good Neighbor Day." It was decided that the board would just work a booth and pass out program brochures and also have the master plans for Joyner and Taylor Street on display. Several members asked if we had maps of the parks? Ms. Simpson informed the group that we do not but that she would talk with Bill Crabtree and see what can be added to the website.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The only item of new business was a review of the annual report that the board submits to the Town Board in October. Ms. Simpson prepared something for the group to look at. Lisa Curran asked if we could include under accomplishments our continuing work with the East End Neighborhood group. Ms. Simpson will add this to the list. Commissioner Stinnett asked the board to consider a goal of next year to be participation in the Centennial celebration. The group directed Ms. Simpson to add this item. Ms. Simpson will revise and submit to the Town Board by October.

Earl Creutzburg mentioned that someone had mowed the Wake Forest Golf course. Chip Russell in Planning had asked the owner to mow especially the holes that are visible from Capital Boulevard.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Earl Creutzburg, Chairman