

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes

October 27, 2008

Members Present: David Jerosé, Tom Hodges, Tom Shipman, Earl Creutzburg, Lisa Curran, Jim Thompson, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

Members Absent: David Faircloth, and Sandy Thomason.

Staff Present: Susan Simpson, Parks and Recreation Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Earl Creutzburg called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

MINUTES

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

ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS

David Jerosé asked to add a Transportation meeting to the agenda. It will become item 7e.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Simpson gave an athletic update. Fall baseball finished up this past weekend. Registration for youth basketball concluded Friday, October 24. Approximately 500 signed up. League play will begin in January.

Ms. Simpson reported on the programs for the month. For the month of September, the department hosted 23 programs with 455 participants. During the month of October, the department offered 15 programs with 1905. Several special events were held in October that boosted numbers: the concert in the park, puppet shows at Wake Forest Elementary, and the Halloween Spooktacular. Earl Creutzburg asked about attendance at the Concert. Ms. Simpson reported that Leroy Savage and Group were the entertainment and that about 220 attended. David Jerosé said that he new the Spooktacular was a success because the parking lot was full and people were parked along the street. He said that it was Avery Cup night at the Tennis Courts which meant 32 participants there. He suggested that next year, we contact the Electric Motor Shop across the street and utilize their parking. Ms. Simpson said that was a good idea and suggested that the tennis group park across the street since they were adults. It would be less dangerous for them to cross the street and closer to the courts. Lisa Curran asked how many more participants that event could handle. Ms. Simpson said that over 550 attended and that because people are moving in and out of the building and different rooms, we were able to make it work, but in the future we might have to look at two nights divided by ages.

Director Simpson reported that maintenance crews will be working on fields #1 & #2 at the Smith Creek Soccer Center. Work will include regrading and re-seeding of the facility. The department will be constructing a new stone and wrought iron fence at the entrance of the Community House to replace the old split rail fence, and replace old broken steps at Miller Park.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for the month of August was 2828, and for September 2049.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Earl Creutzburg thanked all the members who worked the booth at Good Neighbor Day. There was good attendance at the event. Several members mentioned that most of the questions concerned Joyner Park and the greenway system.

OLD BUSINESS

David Jerose reported that the bicycle plan will be presented for review next Thursday before the Town Board. In conjunction with the bike plan, he mentioned that the Planning Department still had lights and helmets left over from the Bike rodeo and wondered if staff at the Community Center could generate a sign up sheet with names of kids who need either or both. Ms. Simpson asked him to send an email to her and Candace Davis in the Planning Department to see if this is feasible. Ms. Simpson mentioned the video Mr. Jerose showed last month of the bike rodeo. There were 150 participants. Lisa Curran mentioned that it would be good to make this an annual event and maybe sponsor one at one of the downtown festivals.

Ms. Simpson gave an update on the Joyner Park Phase I project. Work is progressing with the grading for the amphitheatre, trails, and performance garden. Most of the water and sewer work have been completed. The stone wall and the farm buildings are at 95% completion. The project schedule calls for completion through punch list on February 26, 2009.

The Taylor Street park renovation project was bid out and the Town Board approved the low bids of McQueen Construction for the general and Environmental Landkeepers for the landscape component. Mark Robinson and Ms. Simpson will meet with Harvey McQueen on Friday, October 31 to discuss the project. The work should only take eight weeks from the Notice to Proceed. The total cost of the project will be \$195,000.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item of business was a report from Ms. Simpson on the recent resignation of board member Joel Smith. The group will miss Mr. Smith and his contributions to this board and the community. His unexpired term will be filled in December with the appointments of the three expiring terms. Ms. Simpson reminded members with terms expiring (Earl, Sandy and Jim) that if they wanted to be re-appointed, they needed to contact Town Clerk Joyce Wilson.

Tom Shipman reported on the Press Box project. This was a vision of the Greater Wake Forest Area Baseball Commission and Mr. Shipman spearheaded this project. He thanked the Town, Matt Hale, and the Rotary Club for their financial support, along with other companies who cut a % off sales of materials or provided workers. Some electrical and landscaping are left, but should be completed soon. To date \$21,496 has been spent. \$30,000 was budgeted.

David Jerosé asked members to fill out a survey for the update of the Open Space and Greenway Master Plan. Ms. Simpson passed out copies and each member present took a few minutes to complete. Maps of the current system were given to all to keep.

The next item of business was a discussion of the annual Thanksgiving luncheon. Ms. Simpson presented two dates and the group agreed on Wednesday, November 19 at 12:30 p.m. Tom Shipman agreed to help with set-up and decorations. Ms. Simpson will contact the Forks cafeteria for catering. If there is a change in the date, she will notify the group.

The last item was brought forward from David Jerosé. He passed around some information on a meeting of the Triangle Transit Authority scheduled for Wake Forest on Wednesday, November 5 from 2-3 p.m. at the Town Hall. The forum will take a look and receive input on transportation in the area. Mr. Jerosé asked if he could attend as the Advisory board representative. The members agreed. Lisa Curran asked if he would mention that it would be nice if the local Wake Forest bus could go in both directions. It would make the trip back shorter. He said that he would share that as appropriate.

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ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Earl Creutzburg, Chairman