

## **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes**

**February 23, 2009**

**Members Present:** Sandy Thomason, Lacusia Green, David Jerose, Tom Shipman, and Lisa Curran.

**Members Absent:** David Faircloth, Tom Hodges, Jim Thompson, Tom Parmelee and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Lisa Curran made a motion to approve the minutes. David Jerose seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS**

Members welcomed Lacusia Green to the Board. She introduced herself to the board. Ms. Green moved from Florida two years ago. She has two small children and works at the NC Court of Appeals. Each member went around the table and introduced themselves and told how long they have served and their interest.

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

David Jerose asked to add an item concerning Public Buildings which will be 8b. Ms. Simpson added item 8c concerning an announcement for Taylor Street park.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Simpson gave an athletic update. Youth basketball has four weeks left for games. The season has gone well. Baseball and softball registration is underway with about 413 signing up thus far. The deadline is Friday, February 27. The department has started online registration for youth athletics and to date 180 of the 413 have been online. Registration for adult open league and church league men's softball ended February 20 with 9 and 10 teams respectively.

Ms. Simpson reported on the programs for the month of February. There were ten classes offered during the month with 70 participants. The staff is working on the summer brochure with should be out by April.

Director Simpson reported that maintenance crews have been overseeing renovations to the Olde Mill Stream sales office. The work included a new roof, new windows, and a new door. Staff also built a retaining wall at Forrest Park and put in stone pavers for the bleachers. This will help with erosion from the hill and also provide a safer/cleaner surface for the bleachers at that ballfield. The landscape crew will be doing fertilizations at Smith Creek and Flaherty Park fields.

The attendance at the Flaherty Park Community Center for the month of January was 5015. Tom Shipman asked how this compared to last January. Ms. Simpson stated it was down some, but could be due to the snow and cancellation of some basketball games and practices at the Center.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Vice-Chairperson Sandy Thomason reported that there is a lot of excitement in the community over E. Carroll Joyner Park and its anticipated opening in April. She also mentioned that she had a conversation with Thomas Walters about an indoor pool and he told her there was still discussions concerning the possibility of one being built in Wake Forest. She will keep us posted as more information is available.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Simpson gave an update on Joyner Park Phase I. The completion date has been set between March 30 and April 10. A progress meeting was held on February 13 and the park is really beginning to take shape. About 25% of trails are paved and both bridges are set. The Walker garden is almost complete and the performance garden and amphitheatre are moving forward.

Taylor Street park renovations are behind schedule with completion now set for March 15. Work has slowed due to rain and snow in January. McQueen Construction is scheduled to be back on site February 16 and work move forward.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The first item of business was the election of officers for the coming year. Tom Shipman served as Chair of the nominating committee and presented the following slate of officers: Sandy Thomason, Chair and Lisa Curran, Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations from the floor. Tom Shipman made a motion to accept the slate by acclamation. David Jerose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

David Jerose asked for a discussion of Public Buildings as the next item. He told the board that he was volunteering at Church Net, which uses a Town building for their work, and that a staff member from Parks & Recreation came to the building for repairs. He did not know that our department was over the buildings. Ms. Simpson stated that Public Buildings has always been under Parks & Recreation and that our maintenance staff look after 20 buildings and that Ms. Simpson oversees all outside contracts such as Pest Control, Fire Extinguishers, etc. She also mentioned that the new Town Hall was under her oversight. Mr. Jerose said that he had no idea that the department was responsible for so much outside of Parks & Recreation and wanted to bring this to the attention of other board members who also might not be aware of this.

The last item of business was an announcement by Ms. Simpson concerning the ribbon-cutting and grand opening of the Taylor Street park. The Town has scheduled the opening for Friday, April 3 at 4 p.m. Invitations will be sent to various boards and citizens and Ms. Simpson said that our board will serve as host for the event. She mentioned that Sandy Thomason will also be asked to make some remarks on behalf of the board.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Sandy Thomason, Vice-Chairperson