

RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

October 26, 2009

Members Present: David Jerosé, Lisa Curran, LaCusia Green, Jim Thompson, Tom Hodges, and Commissioner Margaret Stinnett.

Members Absent: Tom Shipman, David Faircloth, Tom Parmelee, and Sandy Thomason.

Staff Present: Susan Simpson

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Lisa Curran called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MINUTES

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

ITEMS FOR AGENDA FROM BOARD MEMBERS

David Jerose asked to add a Tennis Update to the agenda. This will be under Old Business, item 6 C.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Simpson gave an athletic update. The adult men's softball league is complete. Fall baseball and softball leagues for youth are complete. Youth basketball registration ended October 23. All registrations have not been entered into the computer but estimates are around 600.

Director Simpson reported on the programs for the months of October. Three classes were held during the month with 55 participants. Four special events were held: a Concert in the park, puppet show at the Autumn Arts Festival, E. Carroll Joyner Park grand opening, and the Halloween Spooktacular with a total of 1372 attending. David Jerose asked if youth volunteers were appropriate for the Halloween event? Ms. Simpson stated that the department would rather have adults (21 +) to handle games, prizes and just the crowd in general. Lisa Curran volunteered and said that the event was well staffed and was a fun time for all attending. Ms. Simpson stated that approximately 470 children and adults enjoyed the evening.

Grass mowing has slowed and ballfield preparation has come to an end, so maintenance crews are working on a project list for the winter. Some of the projects include the completion of the new picnic shelter at Ailey Young Park being constructed by an Eagle Scout candidate; renovations at the Wake Forest Community House kitchen; and mulching of plant beds and playgrounds.

The attendance for the Flaherty Park Community Center for the month of September was 2282.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No official report was given, but members present spoke about their impressions of the grand opening of E. Carroll Joyner Park. Tom Hodges said that it was a great day and the weather was picture perfect. He had not seen the property since it was purchased and was very pleased with the Phase I development. Lisa Curran said that it was a fun day and that she enjoyed getting to meet Mr. Joyner. Jim Thompson said it was a great day and praised staff (Bill & Pam and Recreation staff) for all their efforts. David Jerosé said he was surprised with all the politicians there from other towns. Ms. Simpson said that some many partners were involved and people wanted to come and see the work that the turnout from dignitaries and the community as a whole was wonderful. Commissioner Stinnett praised the board for working the event and their commitment to recreation and the community at large. Ms. Simpson mentioned the grand opening of the greenway in Rolesville on November 2 at 11 a.m. The section links the Sanford Creek greenway in Wake Forest. Ms. Simpson will email the invitation to board members.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Simpson informed the board of the date of the annual Thanksgiving luncheon. It will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 12:30 p.m. The Forks cafeteria will be catering again this year. Ms. Simpson went over the menu. Tom Shipman has agreed to decorate for the event again this year. Anyone else can come and help him.

Ms. Simpson gave an update on the progress of some play equipment for children with special needs. She reminded the board that some parents and teachers had attended a Town Board meeting in June asking the Board to consider some play equipment for children with special needs. Ms. Simpson stated that she has met with some of the group and a small section will be added to Kiwanis Park. Some older equipment will be removed from the back section and new therapeutic swings, a therapeutic sand box and other pieces will be installed. Hopefully this work will be done by the end of the year. When the Phase II work is done at E. Carroll Joyner Park, then a larger play area will be incorporated. The Kiwanis Club is on board to help raise funds for the Joyner project.

David Jerose gave a tennis update. He thanked Ms. Simpson and her staff for taking care of a maintenance issue at the new tennis courts at Flaherty. The Tennis Association is working towards electing officers for the coming year. He indicated that people are riding bikes on the courts and asked about new signs for the entrance gates. Currently they say: No rollerblading, and skateboarding. Ms. Simpson stated that the group needs to let her know what they want the signs to say and she can work towards replacing. Mr. Jerose then asked about a storage building again. Ms. Simpson said that the best way to handle this would be to meet with the group and discuss their needs.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Simpson reminded the board that their annual report to the Town Board was due this month. The report is attached for discussion. After some discussion, the group asked Ms. Simpson to add a goal of promoting a healthy lifestyle. Ms. Simpson will make the change and submit to the Town Clerk. Lisa Curran asked when the Town might think about another park bond? Ms. Simpson stated that it would be two-three years at the earliest. Ms. Curran asked what projects would this include? Ms. Simpson said Phase II of Joyner Park and additional greenways. Ms. Curran asked if the park bond would be partnered with other bonds? Ms. Simpson said probably Streets. She couldn't say for sure.

The last item of business was a discussion of terms expiring for 2009. The members are Tom Hodges, Tom Shipman, and David Faircloth. Tom Hodges indicated he would like to be reappointed. Tom Shipman will not seek reappointment. Ms. Simpson has not heard from David Faircloth.

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ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Susan Simpson, Secretary

Lisa Curran, Vice-Chairperson