

ALAMANCE COUNTY  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 6:00 P.M.  
VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

Members Present (Underlined): Chairman Lee Isley, Vice-Chair Kelly May, Mr. John Paisley, Commissioner Bill Lashley, Mr. Earl Jaggers, Ms. Ann Meletzke, Mr. Kirk Puckett, Ms. Pamela Thompson, Ms. Bhanva Hilligrass.

Alamance Parks Staff Present: Brian Baker, Director; Anna Bowland, Grants & Communications Coordinator

I. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established at 6:03pm

B. Approval of the January 21, 2020 Minutes

Upon a motion of John Paisley, and the second of Pamela Thompson, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020 meeting.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public submitted comments or were present.

III. **REPORT OF CHAIRMAN**

None

IV. **REPORT OF STAFF**

A. Monthly Departmental Report

Brian Baker presented the monthly report including the attendance figures, Department projects, and programs for April. He reported that attendance numbers to parks are significantly higher overall. Community Center and Textile Heritage Museum numbers are lower due to facility closings due to COVID-19.

B. Department Changes due to COVID-19

Brian Baker discussed changes in the Department related to COVID-19. Employees are shifting duties as necessary to help maintain parks and provide virtual programming through social media outlets.

IV. **UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area Update**

Brian Baker updated the Commission on the progress of the Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area. Phase I of the park will open on May 22, 2020. Due to COVID-19 precautions, initially the park will open by reservation only. The Department received a PARTF 2019 Grant Award for Phase II construction including the second trailhead and observation tower in the park. Construction of Phase II will begin this summer.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Discussion of Summer/Fall Programming Due to COVID-19 Restrictions**

The Commission discussed the impact of COVID-19 on Department programming during the summer and fall. A decision regarding whether to proceed with the 2020 Summer Camps and the Alamance Parks fall youth football leagues will be made pending recommendations from the Health Department and county government leaders. Additionally, the Department will consider how to implement plans for the Afterschool Athletics Program which was scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2020.

B. **Application for Recreational Trails Program Grant Cycle 2021 for Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area**

Brian Baker requested the support of the Commission to apply for a \$100,000 grant from the North Carolina Recreational Trails Program (RTP). This grant will be used for Phase II trail construction of Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area. Upon a motion of John Paisley and the second of Pam Thompson, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the application for these grant funds.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 6:59pm upon the motion of Kelly May and the second of Bhavna Hilligrass.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Baker