



## Recreation and Parks Commission

Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2024 12:30 pm

Glencoe Office, 2320 River Rd., Burlington NC

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Chair Ms. Lisa Wolff, Commissioner Bill T. Lashley, Mr. David Woody, Ms. Kelly Ronnow, Dr. Harold Kernodle, Mr. Thomas Purcell, Mr. Craig Yokeley, Ms. Elizabeth Read, Ms. Sandy Ellington Graves

### **ALAMANCE PARKS STAFF PRESENT:**

Jamie Merchel, Director; Chase Parrish, Grants & Communications Coordinator, Jason Witherspoon, Programs Superintendent, Dianne Neese, Office Manager

### **PUBLIC PRESENT: NA**

#### **a) COMMUNICATIONS**

- a) Meeting called to order at 12:20 pm - quorum established
- b) June 18, 2024 meeting minutes were approved unanimously

#### **b) PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **c) REPORT OF CHAIRMAN**

- a) Election of Officials were completed
- b) Ms. Lisa Wolff re-elected as Chair, Mr. Peter Dahl re-elected as Vice-Chair

#### **d) REPORT OF STAFF**

- a) John Guss Historic Properties Superintendent/Textile Heritage Museum:
  - John provided the group with a PowerPoint presentation on the development and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Textile Heritage Museum and its evolution into a successful contributing historical and cultural resource within Alamance County.
- b) Grants and Communications Position:
  - Jamie introduced Chase Parrish the new Grants and Communication Coordinator

#### **e) OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES**

- a. 2025 Meeting Schedule will continue to alternate between 12:30 pm and 6:00 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month
- b. Haw River Trail
  - Trail work will resume in the Fall
- c. Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area Development
  - Tower construction in process
  - Contract in place to be signed for engineering services for parking lot and trailhead at Phase 3

d. ABSS Ballfield Improvements

- BE Jordan Ballfield renovation should be completed in the fall
- In this year's budget we were awarded \$350,000.00 for additional ABSS ballpark improvements. Next project will start with A/O lighting and fencing.

e. Great Alamance Creek

- Finalized the feasibility study with consultants. Final report will be presented to County Commissioners sometime in the fall to be adopted.

f. L&W Grant for Alston Quarter property acquisition

- Finalized the application for Land and Water Conservation (LWCF) Grant for future park and to extend the Haw River Trail and Mt. to Sea Trail in Saxapahaw. Will have a walk through with LWCF staff in the coming months, and projects will be presented in Raleigh October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

g. Programing/Athletics

- One more week of Sports Camps at Pleasant Grove Community Center. Still have openings
- Upcoming Family Footgolf event will be held at Cedarock Park August 16<sup>th</sup>
- Family Pickleball was held at Eli Whitney in June, 16 participants
- Youth Football season will start practices the week of August 5<sup>th</sup> and games starting the week of September 9<sup>th</sup>. 5 participating organizations for 2024 season.
- Equestrian –no official proposals yet

**f) NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Jamie accepted the Park and Recreations Month Proclamation at County Commissioners Meeting July 15<sup>th</sup>

b) Amendment to Parks and Recreation Enabling Ordinance

- Jamie presented to the County Commissioners a request to allow serving and consumption of alcohol at special events. The County Commissioners voted against the request at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting
- Lisa suggested forming a team to work thru the challenges of the policy that included key County staff from the Sheriff's Department as well as Risk Management.

**g) NEW BUSINESS**

- Lisa announced that Craig Yokeley would be stepping down in July leaving an open seat on the board. Well wishes were given to Craig on his new business and move to Colorado, as well as thanking him for the time he dedicated to the advisory board.

**h) ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm

Next Meeting Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 pm Cedarock Park Administrative Offices