



Recreation and Parks Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 19,

2024 12:30 PM

May Memorial Library, 342 S Spring St. Burlington, NC 27215

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Chair Ms. Lisa Wolff, Vice-Chair Mr. Peter Dahl, Commissioner Bill T. Lashley, Mr. David Woody, Ms. Kelly Ronnow (Zoom), Mr. Mike Dunning, Dr. Harold Kernodle, Mr. Thomas Purcell, Elizabeth Read, Dr. Charles Parker (Zoom), Lee Isley

1) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Call to Order at 12:25pm and Quorum Established
- b) Review and approval of the October 15 minutes -- motion to approve, motion carries

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Alamance County App via Impact Alamance
 - i) Nichole, an Elon Fellow with Impact Alamance, presented the preliminary work that has been done to create an app for Alamance County resources (parks, tourism etc.). The idea is to promote everything local and act as a centralized hub for all things recreation, resources and things to do. DigLocal, based out of Asheville met with Impact Alamance to discuss how the app operates and discuss how similar framework could be used for Alamance County. Nichole is looking for feedback from parks departments throughout the county on working this into our budget as well as our thoughts around benefits of the app, challenges we see with the app etc.

3) REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

4) REPORT OF STAFF

- a) Parks Superintendent Position – Offer has been accepted and first day of employment will be January 6th, 2025.

5) OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

- a) Athletics Update
 - i) Athletics is going well. Basketball sign ups are underway with a little over a month to go. Athletics Director Guil Johnson is currently leading the kickball program and is receiving excellent feedback from both kids and their parents about the success of the program and how much they are enjoying it. Coaches being hired for the basketball season will receive hands-on training as well as a coach's playbook to make sure that players have the best experience possible.
 - ii) Football season has ended. The Club Cup is currently happening and will wrap up before Thanksgiving.
- b) Cane Creek
 - i) Drawings for the observation tower's steps have been approved and fabrication will begin soon. Lookout trail is still closed for safety reasons during the construction of

- the tower. Once we have word on official tower completion we will arrange a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate. Marketing must be completed by the end of February.
- ii) Phase 3- 7 bids on the parking lot/trail head project. All bids received were higher than anticipated. Currently looking at reducing the size of the parking lot in an effort to make the costs more realistic for our budget. One loop is complete and the other loop still needs just a little bit more work before completion. Bridges are to be built soon (hopefully by the end of the year, best case scenario).
 - c) BE Jordan
 - i) As of today PO's are cut for electric, grading, concrete. Additional \$350,000 we received in this year's budget will be used for upgraded lighting as well as any goals the school has that any remaining funds can be applied towards.
 - d) Village of Alamance Paddle Access
 - i) Duke Energy has signed, once it has been recorded we can move forward.
 - e) Alston Quarter
 - i) Currently in limbo. Originally asked for \$10.5M from Land and Water, but were awarded \$4M. That difference is causing us to pivot and look at turning the project into a multi-phase project.
 - f) Carolina Mill
 - i) Nearly 100% demolished. Property will be donated to us. Meeting on 11/20 to discuss the cost of a site plan. Likely looking to be a community park with a trail going through. Water tower that is on the property will need to be taken by someone or paid to remove.
 - g) Haw River State Trail
 - i) GTSP Grant has been submitted as well as the RTP Grant.

6) NEW BUSINESS

- a) 2025 Meeting Schedule
 - i) Will be sent out by Jamie to everyone. Same schedule will be maintained. Third Tuesday of every month, alternating between lunch and evening times.
- b) Elon Engineering Class Project
 - i) Volunteer Coordinator Barbara has connected with a group from Elon University that is looking to work on a project for Alamance Parks within their wheelhouse such as a gazebo, observation deck etc. More to come on this later.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) 2025 Budget Process starts February 2025
 - i) Will share updated CIP to be submitted to County Management at January meeting
 - ii) Include future dog park at CRP is that is the desire of the board and staff

8) ADJOURNMENT

- a) Meeting adjourned at 1:37pm.

No December Meeting, Next Meeting Tuesday January 21st