



Recreation and Parks Commission

Meeting Agenda

July 15, 2025, 6:00pm

Alamance Parks Glencoe Office 2406 Glencoe Street Burlington, NC 27217

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Ms. Lisa Wolff (Zoom), Commissioner Ed Priola, Dr. Charles Parker, Ms. Elizabeth Read, Dr. Harold Kernodle, Mr. Lee Isley (Zoom), Dr. Janet MacFall (Zoom).

PARKS STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Merchel – Director, Chase Parrish – Grants and Communications Coordinator, Mike Scott – Parks Superintendent, Nolan Carter – Trails and Open Space Coordinator

1) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Call to Order and Establish Quorum
 - i) Meeting called to order at 6:05pm, quorum not established
- b) Review and approval of the May Meeting Minutes
 - i) To be reviewed at our next meeting when quorum is established
- c) July 14th Board Appointments
 - i) Congratulations to Dr. Harold Kernodle and Mr. Lee Isley who were re-appointed as board members. Warm welcome to Dr. Janet MacFall who is our new board member.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT

3) REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

- a) Chair Lisa Wolff acknowledged the efforts and hard work from the parks staff in response to the recent flooding working towards getting areas prepared for safe public access. A huge thank you goes out to all staff and all of the amazing volunteers who have been working over the past week!

4) REPORT OF STAFF

- a) Staff presentation: Textile Heritage Museum Updates (John Guss)
 - i) John provided a brief history of the Textile Heritage Museum and how it grew to be what it is today. He also discussed a few of the future renovation projects that are planned.
 - ii) John shared information regarding a recent small-scale archaeological dig that took place in Glencoe through a partnership with NC State University.
- b) Director's Update

5) OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

- a) 25-26 Budget Update
 - i) Budget has been finalized. We will be working on finalizing our internal budget over the next month and will be able to share an update at our next meeting.
- b) Cane Creek Phase 3 Parking Lot Construction status
 - i) The lot has been graded. Vault toilet installation has been completed. Small in-house tasks have been getting finished over the past couple of weeks. The gate and signage now have a PO and no major delays are anticipated at the moment.
 - ii) The first two trail loops are complete. All other trail volunteer efforts have been

paused as focus has shifted to storm cleanup.

- c) BE Jordan Ballfield Upgrades status
 - i) All of the major components are complete. Painting will happen over the next couple of weeks. Bleacher construction is in process. Programming has been able to continue as Summer baseball and softball have been running smoothly throughout June and July. Once everything is completed, we are planning to hold a dedication/grand re-opening. More details to come.
- d) AO Ballfield Upgrades Status
 - i) To Director Jamie Merchel's understanding, during the budget process the remaining funds were put back into place to go towards the remaining work to be done on-site. Once we know what the official budget is, we plan to sit down with the staff at AO, our programming staff and others involved to discuss priorities to focus on.
- e) Village Of Alamance Paddle Access construction status
- f) Alamance Parks Sponsorship, Advertising and Signage Policy Update Needed
 - i) To be discussed at our next meeting.

6) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Tropical Storm Chantal Damage and Cleanup
 - i) The majority of the damage for our parks has been primarily focused in Saxapahaw. As of right now Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area, Shallow Ford Natural Area, Great Bend Park, Glencoe Paddle Access and some portions of Cedarrock Park are open. The trails and Regulator Disc Golf Course within Cedarrock Park remain closed. The Eli Whitney Community Center fitness room is currently closed due to flood damage. Volunteer efforts throughout Saxapahaw are a large focus at the moment. Once trash and debris are cleaned up it will still take a bit of time until trails can be rebuilt and reopened.
- b) Glencoe Mill Race Breach
 - i) Discussions have been had with Preservation NC and Hedgehog Holdings on how to move forward with repairs. Ownership and financial responsibility remain unclear at the moment. Dr. Janet MacFall and Ms. Elizabeth Read offered information on the topic for Jamie Merchel and Nolan Carter to follow up on pertaining to this. Future updates to come on this.
- c) Current Vacancy – Athletic Programmer
 - i) Our Athletics Director, Guil Johnson, has accepted a position with Person County Parks and Recreation. The department will review this opening before opening the window to accept applications. The soonest that this position can be filled is September 1st.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Upcoming Programs and Events
 - i) Next VIP Outing is at the NC Museum of Art on July 30th
 - ii) Youth Sports Summer Camp is wrapping up this week
 - iii) The Alamance Adventure Race is coming back this September. We are now accepting business sponsors and will soon open registration for racers.
- b) Active Alamance App is Live!
 - i) The development of the app was a group effort of surrounding parks and recreation departments as well as other groups/business in the community and led by Impact Alamance. It allows all information regarding parks, rentals, facilities, events etc. to be in one spot.
- c) July 18th Park and Recreation Professionals Day
 - i) Based on staff feedback, there is a need to move the appreciation breakfast to either July 22nd or 23rd due to numerous staff members not working on Friday. A final decision

- on a date will be made by Friday, July 18th and will be communicated to the board.
- d) Opportunities to Support the cleanup efforts in the Saxapahaw Area
- Thursday 7/17 8am Sax Mill Trail
 - Monday 7/21 9am Sax Island Park

8) ADJOURNMENT

- a) Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm

Next Meeting August 19th 12:30pm Alamance Parks Admin Office