

Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission – 3/18/24 – 6pm MACC

Name	Representation
Aaron Davis (AD)	City of Mebane Leader
Emily Powell (EP)	City Limits (RPAC Chair)
Jesse Alston (JA) - ABSENT	City Limits
Jesse Whitaker (JW)	City Limits
Laurie Sawyer (LS)	City Limits
Sherri Seagroves (SS)	City Limits
Jay Bisette (JB) - ABSENT	City Limits
Matt Allred - ABSENT	Southeast Alamance Representative
John Kirby – ABSENT	Eastern Alamance Representative

1. Call to order – RPAC Chair – E.P – 6:08pm

2. Approval of Minutes from February 2024 – no issues or concerns, SS made motion, JB seconded.

3. RPAC Goal Setting 2024 – E.P – stated that she would like to be able to measure our successes as a Commission and would like to set goals.

a. LS - suggested to try to secure funding for the additional 5 towers at the Cates Farm Park

b. LS - also suggested the RPAC Commission make themselves more present at department sponsored events.

1. LS added it could be as simple as saying attend 1 program per month, and report back on the program at the next meeting. AD added that we could actually ask participants or attendees for feedback as well.

a. AD said that it would be beneficial to – How did you find out about this event? What motivated you to be a part of it? Are there any suggestions to make it better? What’s your favorite part about this event?

1. AD suggested we could add feedback in a google form, rather than wait for the next meeting.

c. AD – suggested perhaps targeting a grant writer.

4. RPAC 360 Evaluation –

a. Fifth Street Pocket Park – a potential homeless person using the receptacle at the gazebo and staying there.

1. AD has been there 5 times and the person is just sitting there, charging his phone.

a. AD has said that he is going to work on a way to make the problem better.

2. LS said that she had driven by the basketball court several times and had not observed any of the things that the concerned citizens expressed.

a. AD said that he got Chief McKinney involved, and things are hopefully getting better with more enforcement the proper way. Chief McKinney has done a great job adapting to the request for more enforcement.

b. AD was also reach out to Carlsbad, CA about acoustic panels added to pickle ball courts to buffer noise, but none of the panels are transparent.

b. SS – said that the facility was very helpful to work with for the State Art Show this past weekend.

c. SS – said that Mebane Trail Rangers is picking up and that they will be cleaning up along the shrubs on Holt Street Park

1. AD also shared that we are in the process of buying additional land at Holt St. Park. The plan would be to extend the walking path and put two pedestrian bridges over the creek there.

a. Sherry said that it might be nice to involve the surrounding homeowners

d. SS – said that she and Shauna are walking Cates Farm to look at the placement of a pollinator garden, the relocation of the bridge, and they will be creating a Sign-up genius to coordinate litter pick-up at the Cates Farm Park and possibly Lake Michael also.

1. SS and AD discussed how to move the bridge.

5. Vacant Programming Position + Department Changes – AD – mentioned today was the new programming coordinator's first day, Lindsey Morris. Her and her husband owned Melomaniac. Will try to get her to the next meeting. She has some experience, knows the downtown business owners. She will be at the Easter event Saturday, and then we will be at the 3 egg hunts.

a. AD also mentioned that at the Council meeting he was recommending some departmental changes that would add a position overall to the team at only an \$11K increase.

b. Sports Camps – Eastern, lots of turnover and doesn't really have the details nailed down for doing camps. Southeast – trying to do their own sports camps to raise money. Right now, our camps are scheduled to overlap, which is not ideal.

6. Budget Update – AD - Presentation given to council last Thursday. On top of the position changes, I did ask for an additional maintenance person. Doubt that will make it through, but that would have a very high impact. Huge importance to having that position if we do get that position. There were not too many questions about my presentation.

7. Council Member Meetings – AD

a. LS provided an update on her meeting with Sean Ewing and speaking at council meeting in support of the RP Master plan.

8. Action Items /What Happens Next – ALL

9. Adjourn – JW made motion, SS seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm