

Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission – 4/15/24 – 6pm MACC

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

1. Call to order – RPAC Vice-Chair – J.W. – 6:05pm
 - a. Introductions – Aaron Davis, Laurie Sawyer, Lindsey Morris, Recreation Program Coordinator, Gail Miller (guest), Matt Allred, Jesse Whitaker – participated in ice breaker
2. Approval of Minutes from March 2024 – SS had 2 edits to the minutes – add the Rangers are picking up litter at Holt Street Park, and SS requested the spelling of her name be corrected. LS made a motion to approve the minutes with the edits. JW seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.
3. RPAC Goal Setting 2024 Recap/Progress – We talked at last meeting about gathering feedback, be more present in the community.
 - a. LS said that she could not open the document that AD created to gather feedback.
 - b. AD reviewed the questions he has prepared on the google document with the group, and we discussed whether it would be a good idea to gather contact information
 - c. Group discussed being more present during events over the past month
4. RPAC 360 Evaluation –
 - a. LS suggested that the gentleman sitting in the 5th Street Pocket Park has not appeared to be there any longer.
 - b. LS heard from a citizen that there should be more sand volleyball courts, especially at the community park
 1. AD shared that there have been site visits looking at re-working the Walker Field spaces, there were more pickleball courts and sand volleyball parks. AD shared that new poles and nets will be appearing at the downtown court soon.
 - c. LS asked AD if he saw the cranky posts about pickleball. The group discussed how the person was upset that only 2 people were using the new tennis courts, but 16 people were waiting to play pickleball.
 1. AD said that resurfacing of the old pickleball courts is in the budget.

2. JW said that we need to be mindful of the progress we've made over the past year. A year ago we didn't have any outside courts, and now we have available outdoor courts and indoor space also.

d. JW – said that baseball seems to be off to a good start, games start next week.

5. Budget Update/Meeting Recap from 4/11

a. AD said that there was a meeting on 4/11 and that this will probably be the tightest budget season. At this point, it doesn't look like any department will receive any new full-time positions. It seems like the position reclassifications will be approved, which will be huge for Rec and Parks.

b. AD was initially recommending numerous projects, now down to: spillway at Lake Michael (budget item is living in Recs and Parks, but money is coming from other budget within the city), old rec gym floor renovation, MACC roof renovation, pave the Lake Michael Connector (30K), flag pole installation at the Community Park, nets and fence replacement at the Community Park, Zero turn mower, resurfacing of tennis courts and basketball courts

6. Cates Farm Park Ribbon Cutting – AD – Reminded all attendees that the Ribbon cutting will be held at 5/2 at 10am.

7. Project Updates – AD

a. Fiddlers Stage – still not done. Sent an email to the contractor that we have a movie on 5/3 and want this finished. Still need to install acoustic blankets and caulk.

1. AD said a citizen suggested that all the movies be moved downtown if the social district is passed.

b. Lake Michael Connector – still moving forward. Added 30K for pavement.

c. Woodlawn Road Parking at Community park – started construction this week.

d. Spillway project – bids open tomorrow at 1:30pm. Need 3 bids to move forward. If no bids received, then they need to put the project back out for bidding, and then they only need 1 bid to proceed.

e. Program updates from Lindsay – The Power of Produce – Healthy Kids Club ages 5-12. There will be an activity, this week they will be using fruits and vegetables to use as a stamp. For participating they get a \$5 credit to use at a vendor of their choice.

1. Dogwood Festival the following weekend

2. Movies in the Park begin – 4/20 – Mario Brothers with Gaming Truck, 5/13 – The Little Mermaid, with a Mermaid in appearance, then Wonka, handing out chocolate bars with two hidden golden tickets, and Wish.

3. Juneteenth – Looking for vendors for Juneteenth event 10am-2pm

a. AD also added that they are looking for Juneteenth speakers.

4. 4th of July – shooting off fireworks from the current location for the last time this year.
May begin shooting them off from the Gray field.

8. Action Items /What Happens Next – ALL

a. Working on solidifying a partnership with MYSA and Southeast for a Robo painter.

9. Adjournment – 7:24pm, JW made a motion to adjourn, and JB seconded.