



Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission

Meeting Summary

April 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

NAME	REPRESENTATION
Aaron Davis (AD)	City Staff
Anne Maletski (AM)	Healthy Alamance
Sherri Seagroves (SS)	City Limits
Jesse Whitaker (JW)	City Limits
Justin Brawley (JB)	City Limits
Tanner Deisch (TD)	City Limits
Lashonda Hester (LH)	City Limits
Shayla Clemons-Armas (SA)	City Limits

-SS called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

- Committee approved minutes from the March meeting.

- JW – motion to approve
- LH – 2nd motion
- Motion approved unanimously – motion passed

Anne Maletski - Authentically Alamance Farmers Market

- AD introduced Anne Maletski from Authentically Alamance Farmers Market.

- Entered into a Q&A session about the Farmer's Market

- The market is going into it's second season with Mebane.

-SS: How many vendors for 2021? AM: 13 with a 46% retention rate.



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-AD: mentioned that all vendors can attend and be a vendor at each of the authentically alamanca markets, so the city has more vendors to pull from. Numbers should increase as the summer progresses and we get into mid June.

-AD: Asked about the grant they are working under.

-AM: Right now we are working on the third of a grant from USDA for \$250,000 to pay for a market coordinator so they could expand past the North Park Market. First they expanded to Elon, then to Mebane. Because of the pandemic, they will be able to apply for a 6 month extension on the grant. The trick is moving to being sustainable and hopefully because Mebane came on board, the other municipalities will get on board with supporting the initiative.

-SS: Asked about marketing plan and why a vendor would not be approved?

-AM: Marketing varies between communities, looking at yard signage and signs at local businesses, word of mouth from Food Empowerment series. This will give people the opportunity to attend cooking classes and other options like that.

-AM: Vendors are not accepted if they don't make their own products or grow their own food. It must be fair market for those who are growing their own items. 30% of the vendors is the cap for non food vendors. They do not want to become a craft show or fairground. Trying to ensure that the vast amount of vendors are selling food.

-AD: mentioned that the partnership has been great, with added storage, time, and location changes.

-TD: made suggestion about parking notices.

-SS: What is the vendor capacity?

-AD: stated it was 16, but

-AM: mentioned the they can have more post covid. Guest vendors have an opportunity to try 3 times before paying the vendor fee:



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-AD: mentioned that 16 vendors may not mean there will be 16 members doesn't mean there will be 16 vendors per weekend. Vendors get spots on first come/first serve.

-AM: Vendors can sign on in different ways across the network. Vendors can also buy in to the market and become part of the advisory group. Stall fees will come in the future.

-AM: left the call 21:17 into the meeting

-SS: Asked if everyone knew the history of the farmers market

-LH: Mentioned that she would love to know the history and what our goals were with the farmers market.

-SS: Filled everyone in on the history of the Farmer's Market. It was started by Destination Downtown, Mebane Women's Club, and the City Council to offer great opportunities for local farmers and to keep downtown busy. There were some concerns with some vendors selling items that they were purchasing and re-selling items, so the groups along with city wanted to find a group to manage the farmers market and help with the rules and regulations. The Farmers Market is a big driver for the downtown businesses. So the Farmers market really helps out a lot in the summer to keep downtown thriving.

-AD: added that capacity from a staffing standpoint was one of the other reasons the groups wanted to find a different group to run the market. One of the policies of the market is that all farms and kitchens need to be checked and make sure they are to code. The city staff did not have the capacity to make those checks, so it was hard to keep the vendors following the rules. The grant does run out soon, so Mebane and others will need to help with the funding.

-AD: mentioned that the funds would essentially be paying for the position that would operate the farmers market.

Executive Order Changes for Programs- AD



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-AD: wanted to make sure the commission is up to date with the latest programs and regulations

A. Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball

- They started last Monday with their Pod Systems

- No longer taking temps

- In the green sections participants are not required to wear masks, but parents are still asked to.

B. Summer Camps

- The basketball, lacrosse, tennis and football camps will be held with basketball and tennis capped at 75% enrollment while lacrosse and football will have all participants because they do not have enough participants for capacity. These will be held at multiple locations.

C. Tennis

- There are men's, women's, and jr clinics and no changes have been made to the covid procedures.

D. 4th of July and Concert Series

- Hoping to get 100% clearance and follow all protocols which is 18 people per 1000 sq ft.

Ballfield Rentals for Tournaments- AD

A. Topgun Softball



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- They asked to host three different softball tournaments. We asked that patrons still wear masks and Topgun declined to bring tournaments to Alamance County due to mask mandates.

- AA asked to host basketball tournament, but Mebane was not confident with holding indoor tournaments.

Budget Update- AD

A. In a previous conversation the commission was asked to prioritize their top three CIP items

- Went around to all the members and asked their top 3 and everyone gave different answers. Master Plan, youth field, and the emergency blue lights were most popular.

- AD talked about what went on with in the budget meeting. Unlikely for a trail position and most likely will get a program position. Master plan and the blue lights are still in budget while the youth field lights and outdoor basketball court are hopeful. TD asked how big of a hit is the master plan to the budget and AD responded saying not much of a hit and was between -3% to 10%.

-SA asked about the space at the community park in regards to the gravel lot and the overflow. AD how parts of the original plans were nixed and the city was looking at purchasing the field to the left of the entrance for possible parking.

-JW: mentioned how much he liked the youth/walker renovations especially the pickleball and basketball courts. He really likes the idea of the tennis building as well. He likes the idea of a special events and marketing staff member being added to the department for more capacity.

-SS discussed about are individual partnerships with a City Council Member.

-AD then went over non cip items in the operations budget.

- The group was teamed up with their City Council representatives and SS and AD discussed some key points we could talk to our reps about regarding the Parks and Rec Dept.



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- Council person Phillips – Tanner
- Council person Auditori – Jesse
- Council person Bradley – Justin
- Council person Greene – Sherri
- Council person Ewing - Shayla
- Mayor Hooks - Lashonda

Chess Park Update-AD

A. Policy Update

- Policy has not been approved
- The city council was sent over a new rendering of the park by
- It also hasn't been introduced into the budget.

B. Bio Update

- Cause of death was accidental overdose.
- The members discussed many different items within what the policy would officially state.
- JB mentioned the Go Fund Me is still sitting at \$1320 of the \$20,000 goal.

Project Updates- AD

A. Community Park Lights

- The solar lights are complete and look great and will save the city a lot of money.

B. Lake Michael Docks

- The docks are installed and not 100% complete. There was a \$10,000 increase in cost, but it still came in under budget.

C. Tennis Court Shade

- The shade has been purchased and the material has shipped. Hoping to have it installed by end of May.

D. Lake Michael Dam

- The assessment has been completed and are awaiting the final report.

Upcoming Project Renewals/Expirations-AD

- A. MYSA- meeting recap



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- During the meeting it was talked about building out the schedule through civic rec so the community also has access to see when field will be occupied or not. Also going to be asking MYSA to help with beautification of the fields a couple times a year. Getting help to remove goals after the games was discussed also.

Sub Committees- SS

-The group discussed the need for subcommittees was divided whether there was a need or not, but we did come to a consensus have project groups consisting of two members for each group. When AD needs help with one of his many projects he will reach out.

Special Events/Programming – Shayla & Justin

Policy/Contract – Jesse & Tanner

Special Projects – Sherri & Lashonda

New Business- Commission

- SS opened the floor for new business. SS mentioned some needed help at the Holt St Park shelter and SC asked about the flooring in the common room at the MAC and AD confirmed both items were known.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04

Meeting summary by Justin Brawley, Secretary RPAC