



Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission

Meeting Summary
May 16, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

NAME	Representation
Aaron Davis (AD)	City of Mebane Leader
Tanner Deisch (TD)	City Limits (Vice Chair/Chair Elect)
Emily Powell (EP)	City Limits
Jesse Whitaker (JW)	City Limits (Chair)
Sherri Seagroves (SS)	City Limits
Jay Bissette (JB)	City Limits
Guy Loranger (GL)	City Resident
Holly Loranger (HL)	City Resident
Maddie Loranger (ML)	City Resident
Phoebe Loranger (PL)	City Resident

1. Call to order – JW
 - a. Meeting took place in the upstairs office at the Mebane Arts and Community Center and was called to order at 6:00pm
2. Guest Introductions – JW
 - a. The Loranger Family was present at the meeting, they live on the corner of Lee and Third St. in Mebane.
 - b. G.L. mentioned that his daughters participate in City programs and were in attendance to discuss concerns with the Volleyball Courts and newly constructed Basketball Court.
3. Approval of minutes – JW
 - a. J.W. asked if anyone had any changes to the meeting minutes
 - b. J.W. asked to have members approve meeting minutes from the April meeting.
 - c. J.B.. made motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April.
 - i. S.S. – 2nd
 - ii. All in attendance approved.
4. Updates from Council Meeting – A.D.
 - a. Juneteenth - Reported that Juneteenth received a lot of positive feedback to make it a holiday and was officially approved. Juneteenth will be always on JUNETEENTH or the Saturday before if JUNETEENTH is not on a SATURDAY. Council decided to not eliminate a holiday for city employees.
 - b. Budget – There have been no changes since RPAC last met regarding what is going to pass and no other items were cut.
 - i. JW asked what are the main cuts?



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1. AD: Tractor, eSports, Woodlawn entrance to Community Park, parking at Community Park, extension of trail at Lake Michael though work on the connector continues.
 - c. Last week AD received the report from environmental company that did the survey, and they showed no damage to the area.
 - d. Council will vote on June 6th on the budget. A tax increase was proposed but they were able to move money around to avoid the increase.
5. Master Plan – A.D.
 - a. AD reported that negotiation discussion recently concluded, and Berry Dunn is the firm selected.
 - i. Berry Dunn just purchased Green Play.
 - ii. The city received 7 submittals, references were checked, and 2 companies interviewed.
 - iii. JW asked about a timeline.
 1. AD stated that he will report back. Possibly an 18-month process.
6. Program Recaps – A.D.
 - a. The Recreation and Parks Department has been busy with the following: Movies in the park, Dogwood Festival, Hosting the NC Home School Soccer State Championship, Lantern Festival, Trivia Night, Makers Market and Farmers Market, Baseball, Softball, T-Ball
 - i. Shred Nation came to the Farmers Market and went well.
7. 360 Evaluation Time (What has the commission heard around town)
 - a. JW - Mixed doubles tournament was well received. The tennis program has really grown a lot in the last few years and it is very well run and universally praised.
 - i. AD: The city would love to be more involved in promotion of the tennis events. He mentioned that it would be great if Tennis participants would post on social media or send him photos so he can post.
 - b. SS - The feedback on movie night has been very positive and the community is appreciative.
 - i. AD: Mebane shows up and they are so appreciative.
 - c. TD - Farmers Market and Makers Market were great. Lake Michael looks good right now!



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8. Upcoming Events

- a. Youth Volleyball Program has 90 participants
- b. Musical Chairs – June 17th – 7-9pm
- c. Juneteenth Event – June 18th – 10am-2pm
- d. Hall of Fame Induction Gala – June 18th – 5-9pm
- e. Farmers Market – Every Saturday – 8:30am-Noon
- f. Independence Day Celebration – July 4th - 5:00-10:00pm

9. Other Business

- a. Basketball/Volleyball Court
 - i. G.L - stated they have numerous concerns with the volleyball court. There is double parking on the street and children darting in and out chasing balls, the loud noise, music, lighting is on all the time, not on a timer on the lights, and if possible they would prefer the volleyball court be moved and a quieter area created in its place.
 - ii. G.L. and his family are also concerned with the new basketball court so close to their backyard.
 1. A.D. mentioned that the city is offering a buffer fence with trees/shrubs.
 - iii. G.L. mentioned that their concern is that volleyball and basketball will be going at the same time, engines revving, music, yelling.
 1. JW: is there demand for more than 1 volleyball court?
 2. H.L. said yes, especially in the summer.
 3. AD: we've actually rented the volleyball court and still have that option now.
 - iv. AD: mentioned that he will look into the lights immediately on the volleyball court.
 - v. A.D. also mentioned that the time to make changes for location of the volleyball court is during the upcoming master plan. The guests were encouraged to participate in the master plan.
 - vi. G.L. and H.L. mentioned they were very concerned with RPAC's conversations regarding the stigma associated with the basketball court and asked that we change the narrative.



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- vii. Numerous members of RPAC suggested signage stating no amplified sound, the lights turn off at 9:00 and court closed at 9:00 PM.
 - b. Lake Michael – SS stated that during a recent visit to Lake Michael the outside phone rang for 3 hours.
 - i. SS stated concern that there is no trailhead identifying the length nor the route of the trails. The current trails need to be blazed. These two tasks can keep people safe and need to be done immediately. There is no need to wait for years until the new trails are installed.
 - ii. SS also reported that a column is rotting in shelter 2.
- 10. Aaron mentioned the next meeting – June 13th @ 6:00pm – Community Park
- 11. T.D. motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm, S.S. – Seconded.