

Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission – 11/20/23 – 6pm MACC

Name	Representation
Aaron Davis (AD)	City of Mebane Leader
Tanner Deisch (TD)	City Limits (RPAC Chair)
Emily Powell (EP)	City Limits
Jesse Whitaker (JW)	City Limits
Laurie Sawyer (LS)	City Limits
Sherri Seagroves (SS) - absent	City Limits
Jay Bissette (JB)	City Limits

1. Call to order – RPAC Chair – T.D. – 6pm

2. Approval of Minutes from September and October 2023 – no issues or concerns

3. Introductions – Tanner welcomed the new commissioner, Jesse – All commissioners introduced themselves.

4. RPAC 360 Evaluation – Open Conversation/Misc – ALL

a. Shawna and Tanner discussed needing to have a leash law, Mebane city ordinance says that your dog needs to be under control. Shawna discussed that the extendable leashes often break and do not allow for good control of the dog. Shawna said that there are actually several rules posted for the parks that are not enforceable.

b. JW said that basketball seems to be off to a good start. KK said that the only challenge is that one of the goals broke. JW asked if the waitlist had been cleared. KK said that it has nothing to do with lack of coaching, it has to do with court space. He mentioned that all of their staff that they are hiring have backgrounds or a willingness to coach.

c. JB – said that the movie downtown was a great success.

d. EP – said that she had heard some concerns from parents of the Ballers that they were pushed into buying hoodies and didn't anticipate that as an expense on top of recreation fees. KK said that sometimes coaches get sponsors for their teams to help offset some of the expenses, but that is not required.

4. Budget –

b. SJ - has been putting together a list of big things that are going to take up a lot of funds. She said that the department will leave it up to city management to determine priorities

1. Old Rec – Old Rec has a lot of mature Bradford Pears. A lot of the trees go directly over the playground, which is dangerous. Need to install a shade structure over the playground because otherwise there would be no shade. Retrofitting the gym floor (kicked out last year)

2. Holt Street – approach footer that needs to be replaced. Rusted. Captain's chair fitness equipment, all padding needs to be replaced. Looking to plant a vine over the tunnel at Holt.

3. Lake Michael – highest priority are the 2 piers that are not safe. At least have them removed. Both piers are blocked off, roped off, and there are signs saying that they are closed/unsafe, yet people are out there daily. SS suggested putting chicken wire over the whole pier so no one could get out there. Boathouse is not habitable and needs to be removed. SJ had cleaned up a lot of stuff out there proving people had been out there. Also needs to be removed. Piers and boathouse need to be removed ASAP.

4. Community Park – Spring rocker broken off in the playground area and a cone has covered it. Spring needs to be removed. CR has asked for a flag pole to be installed (quoting out now). Fitness Court has cushions that need to be replaced. Astro turf needs some major TLC. Scientific testing organization came out and did a 10 page report on each field. Good news, we weren't to the point the fields were deemed unsafe. Below industry standards on the infill. Need to be refilled and replaced. Some seams need to be redone. Not as much traction provided. Messes up the fibers on the top of the field (70-80K, total cost). Need to ask MYSA for contribution. Once we get the fields back to standard then we will be able to do some different things maintenance wise to improve the fields and make them last longer.

5. Cates – no issues to report.

5. Upcoming Events –

a. 12/1 – Christmas parade. KK said that all dance groups and large walking groups are EMS vehicles. 120 parade entries. Coordinating more strategically and intentionally with police/fire. EP brought up concern about parking becoming a bigger issue as Mebane continues to grow. Shawna discussed putting information on social media to inform people of what to expect.

b. Letters to Santa – upgraded the mailbox to a larger size.

c. Night of the parade – “it's snowing in Mebane” begins. Maverick radio will be broadcasting at the Veteran's garden.

6. Adjournment – motion made by JW, seconded by JB. Adjourned at 7:12pm