



Recreation and Parks Advocacy Commission

Meeting Summary
March 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. @ MACC

NAME	Representation
Aaron Davis (AD)	City of Mebane Leader
Tanner Deisch (TD)	City Limits (RPAC Chair)
Emily Powell (EP)	City Limits (RPAC Vice Chair)
Jesse Whitaker (JW)	City Limits
Laurie Sawyer (LS)	City Limits
Sherri Seagroves (SS)	City Limits

1. Call to order – TD
 - a. Meeting took place at the Mebane Community Art Center and was called to order at 6:02pm.

2. Approval of minutes – T.D.
 - a. Everyone found the meeting minutes from the 2/20/23 meeting to be complete and accurate.
 - b. EP - made a motion to approve the minutes.
 - c. SS – second the motion to approve.
 - d. All in attendance approved the minutes.

3. RPAC 360 Evaluation - ALL
 - a. A.D. - Skate Park – 2 people came to see Aaron and wanted to see where that fits into Mebane’s park and master plan. A.D. advised them to get more community involvement. They referenced the Skateboard foundation headed by Tony Hawk. A.D. asked them to have a hard number of what this would cost, show it to the town council, and use 3 minutes to explain and ask them to consider this for the future.
 - b. S.S. - has received and read a few requests for paddle boat rentals. Aaron said he will address it later in the meeting.
 - c. T.D. - has not received any feedback. Mentioned he liked the dog cleanup stations downtown but didn’t think that was Parks. S.S. added she saw them also.
 - i. A.D. explained that Public Works was in charge of those doggie pot stations.

4. Budget/AFP grant update
 - a. A.D. – Mentioned that the city did not receive funding for the second phase of the Cates Farm Park Playground through the AFP Process. He also mentioned that he learned a lot about the process and believes they will be much more prepared for next time.
 - i. SS asked if there was anything that jumped out as to reasons why we did



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not receive the grant

1. A.D. – said there wasn't really anything specific. We missed a few things throughout the process.
 - a. Not enough participation at the public meeting
 - b. The site master plan was not robust enough
 - c. Two projects in the same county for the group to consider.
 2. A.D. – Outlined the process: You submit your grant, the staff at RRS reviews your grant application and scores it, then they provide the scores to the parks authority, and based on their opinion or scoring of the grant, they then decide who gets the grants.
 3. A.D. provided more information: There were approximately 47 million asked for, and 24 million to actually give. Alamance Parks also put in for a playground at Cedar Rock.
 4. A.D. mentioned that selections have very little to do with the actual project, but everything to do with the scoring. We have to be very intentional about the scoring.
- ii. SS asked if it was an annual application and if you can apply again in 2023.
 1. A.D. mentioned that we can do the same project if the funds are being allocated for AFP.
- b. A.D. talked about the delay for council pairings meeting information.
 - i. He mentioned a few items, but had more information to send once the Floor was surveyed and we had a quote at the Old Rec Gym.
 - ii. A.D. mentioned health as a potential topic and brought up other municipalities that all play wellness basketball together and that it was hard to do so at the MACC without a shower.
 1. T.D. asked if there were concerns.
 - a. A.D. said NO, but mentioned low attendance at the Health Fair this year.
 - c. A.D. mentioned that the automatic door locks for the restrooms at the Community Park were added back to the budget because we had seen an increase in overnight stays and vandalism at the Community Park.
 - d. A.D. listed projects that were going to be completed in the current fiscal year, rather than the next.
 - i. Batting Cages
 - ii. MUSCO Control Link
 - iii. New Mower for Youth/Walker Field
 - iv. Community Park Cameras
 - v. Water Bottle Filling Stations
 1. Holt St. Park
 2. MACC Soccer
 3. MACC Baseball/Softball



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4. Community Park (MYSA paying for)
5. Upcoming Events – A.D.
 - a. Farmers Market
 - i. A.D. mentioned that they were in the process of hiring a p/t farmers market coordinator. The Market opens on April 1st
 - b. Bunny Hop and Eggstravaganza
 - i. A.D. mentioned that he did a video shoot with Dan Shannon to help promote the event.
 - ii. A.D. mentioned that Evan Sawyer would be in the Bunny Costume
 - c. Dogwood Festival
 - i. A.D. mentioned that the Dogwood Festival was on the weekend of the 21st of April
 - ii. The City is playing a movie that Friday night on 3rd St. in Downtown Mebane
 - d. Movies in the Park
 - i. A.D. mentioned that the location of the movies could change depending on the Fiddler Stage construction timing.
 - e. Lantern Festival – 4/29/2023
 - i. S.S. mentioned that Trail Rangers could help if needed with this event.
6. Project/Program Updates – A.D.
 - a. Pickleball Lines will be added to the old rec tennis courts in Mid-April
 - b. Vessels at Lake Michael will be allowed to be used for FREE this summer.
 - i. A.D. mentioned that all users must fill out an online form and gain access to a pad lock code after that process to use the vessels.
 1. Kayaks
 2. Peddle Boats
 3. Jon Boats
 - ii. E.P. mentioned possibly adding a wet bag to each of the vessels
 - iii. L.S. asked about promotion and when the vessels would be live.
 1. A.D. responded that they were going to do a HOW TO video and hopefully it would be sometime in early May.
 - iv. T.D. asked what type of contribution was given from Orange CO.
 1. A.D. mentioned it was a total of \$5,450.00 per year.
 - c. Splash Pad
 - i. A.D. mentioned that the splash pad had a pipe burst, so it may not open as soon as we had hoped it would this year.
 1. S.S. mentioned that there should be a trial each year since it seems like it keeps having issues each year.



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7. Action Items/What Happens Next? – ALL
 - a. A.D. mentioned that the Recreation and Parks Department had ten full-time and approximately 20/25 p/t leaders in the department.
 - i. T.D. mentioned doing something for the Department for National Parks and Recreation month.
 1. The theme this year is “Where Community Grows”
 - ii. S.S./T.D. – discussed options that will be decided upon at future meetings.
 - iii. E.P. asked about feeding the group at events.
 - iv. T.D. talked about making a proclamation at the July 10th Council meeting.
 - v. All - spoke through some ideas regarding snacks, signs, food, beverages etc..
 - b. A.D. mentioned sharing the Youtube Videos that the Rec and Parks Department creates.
 - c. A.D. mentioned that Alamance Parks might be partnering with the City to do another Amazing Race type event.
8. Adjournment – ALL
 - a. J.W. made motion to adjourn.
 - b. S.S. seconded.
 - c. All approved adjournment at 7:23pm