



MEETING MINUTES

Huntersville Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

Members Present: Deanna Baumgardner, Magic Cypress-McNairy, Kathy Jones, Rich Lange (Chair), John Mielke, John O'Neill, Edward Parks, Hank Stiene

Absent: Geoff Steele

Guests: Commissioner Dan Boone

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by John M., Vice-Chair, at 6:30 pm with a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Deanna moved to approve the minutes for the May meeting; Ed seconded the motion. All approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Budget – Town approved the budget. The four capital improvement requests I discussed at February's board meeting are approved to move forward:
 - Bradford Park – paving overflow parking area.
 - Huntersville Athletic Park Parking Lot – resurfacing.
 - North Mecklenburg Park driveway – resurfacing.
 - North Mecklenburg Park Playground – replacement.

Next step is to send out a RFP to playground companies to submit for the new North Meck Park playground. We would allow the public to vote on the top three submission to help the committee pick the best playground design. We will be destroying the old equipment due to liability issues. Kathy asked if we could donate it someone. Michael mentioned due to liability concerns the Town cannot offer to donate it.

2. USTA/LNTA – Tournament at Holbrook Park and North Meck Park starting tomorrow. They are using 12 of our courts.
3. Veterans Park – Ribbon Cutting tomorrow at 6 p.m. Rescheduled due to weather on Memorial Day. Hoping for good weather.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

1. John O – Great Memorial Day event.
2. Hank – Thomas from the Rapids called Hank to let him know he was not able to make the meeting tonight. He is planning on coming next week to discuss Strikers issue.
3. Kathy – Construction of the Jail is finished. Inside will start to be staged. Will reach out to Michael on next steps for outside. Also, Kathy asked about insurance coverage for the Jail. Is this already under Parks and Rec's existing coverage or does a separate policy need to be secured? Michael will find out and get back to her on this.

PROGRAMMING REPORT

1. Summer Camp – Junior Adventure Camp started this week – small group - 30 or so kids. All camps will be running next week – approximately 150 per week.
2. Summer Sports Camps also started this week.
3. Veterans Park Ribbon Cutting/Lalacaboosa Events – Ribbon Cutting rescheduled to tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. followed by the first in the Lalacaboosa series. There will be four more after that: June 28th, July 12th, July 26th and August 9th.
4. Movies in the Park – The next movie is next week, the 21st. Movie is "Ferdinand the Bull." Two more after that: July 19th and August 2nd. Between Lalacaboosa and Movies in the Park, there will be an event every week at Veterans Park.
5. Growers Market – Chef Matt will be at the market this Saturday – grilling with beer. There will be live music.
6. Just Kidding Around – Preschool age test run. Run by "Bach to Rock" – free – includes music, story time, puppets, etc. Held on the stage.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

1. Strikers Soccer Club. Andrew could not make it tonight to discuss the possible co-sponsor violation brought up by Thomas from the Rapids. Michael sent out an email to Andrew asking him about the use of our fields by non-Strikers teams. Andrew subsequently responded to the email explaining the situation. Other email exchanges took place between Michael and the Rapids and Strikers, however, the explanations given were not exactly clear, however, Andrew's response seems legitimate. He stated that a coach from CSA was substituting for a Striker's coach and thus there lies the confusion.

Michael commented that his experience from past history with Strikers is that they have always been up front with us. When there were issues with the Lake Norman Soccer group years ago, he always went through proper procedures to settle it. Michael asked the committee if they thought it would be best to bring both Thomas and Andrew in at the same time and work through the issue. Rich commented that his opinion was that Thomas may be aggravated by some of the things Strikers is doing, however, they are not violations. He then asked what would be considered a violation. It would be a violation if Strikers is subletting field space to others teams and passing along the discount. Rich also commented that we are most likely not able to prove what has happened in the past but going forward we should monitor more closely as to what is going on. He does not think we should have reps from both teams here at the same time.

There seems to be some confusion as to who CSA Huntersville and CSA North are. Is there a difference? Is CSA Huntersville under the Strikers umbrella? We will have Andrew explain this. Also, how does the academy fit into these two groups? Once we have clarification on these groups, we will be able to monitor more closely going forward.

Strikers will also need to send us their agreement with CSA. The discounted field use is only for Strikers teams, not with other partnerships. The agreement should provide us with a clear idea on what teams are a part of Strikers and we will see if we agree with that. If strikers owns CSA Huntersville, we are fine with it. If they are owned by CSA, then it may be a violation. Need clarification from Andrew by next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Recommendation of Community School of Davidson (CSD) Partnership. Last month Michael provided a draft of the Joint Use Agreement with CSD. The Agreement has been reviewed and updated – Michael shared it with the Committee. One change pertains to use. Shouldn't be designated to one group so we changed that language. Michael summarized the agreement, which he has done at a previous meeting. The tennis organizations looked at the agreement and said they do not see any reason why we would not be eligible to receive the grant for \$50,000. Construction should be starting this summer and is expected to be completed by spring of 2019. The Town will be responsible for the operational costs for the tennis court lights (estimated at \$8,000 per year). There will be a capital reserve fund set up for fees to go into from user groups that will be used to pay for improvements, repairs over the course of the agreement. If capital reserve fund does not cover capital costs, then there is an option to split costs with CSD. Rich asked if we could charge for parking in certain situations. Michael doesn't think we would do that. We have never had a tennis tournament that charged gates fees before.

Ed motioned to recommend the agreement be approved by the Board; Hank seconded. All approved.

Michael commented if this Agreement is approved, it will be our 10th joint use agreement with four different schools. Most of our parks are leased by the County and they only charge us \$1 per year. This is a great way to operate a parks department.

2. Lake Norman Chamber Floor Covering Agreement. The Agreement with Lake Norman Chamber was approved by the Board. The language was taken out regarding the restriction of not letting others use the facility and floor cover without the permission of Lake Norman Chamber.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 18th at 6:30 p.m.