



Recreation and Parks Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2024 12:30 pm

Cedarrock Park Admin Office, 3916 R Dean Coleman Rd., Burlington NC

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Chair Ms. Lisa Wolff, Vice Chair Mr. Peter Dahl, Board of Education Representative Dr. Charles Parker, Commissioner Bill T. Lashley, Mr. David Woody, Dr. Harold Kernodle, Mr. Thomas Purcell, Mr. Craig Yokeley, Ms. Elizabeth Read (Zoom)

ALAMANCE PARKS STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Merchel – Director, Chase Parrish – Grants and Communications Coordinator, Jason Witherspoon – Programs Superintendent, Guil Johnson – Athletics Director, Nolan Carter – Trails and Open Space Coordinator, Mackenzie Barrier – Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation Coordinator

PUBLIC PRESENT: Nichole Isley, Marc Allman, Roxanne May, Amber Elliott,

a) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Meeting called to order at 12:32 pm - quorum established
- b) July 16, 2024 meeting minutes were approved unanimously

b) PUBLIC COMMENT

- a) Marc Allman – Life-long citizen, grew up playing youth sports, attended county commissioners meeting and providing feedback after listening to the meeting, wants more outreach to get more kids involved, son is a new-to-football player, the impact football/activity has had on his son.
- b) Roxanne May – Spoke at the county commissioners meeting, would like a better understanding on what sports will look like if not traditional, believes competition is inescapable no matter what sport you are playing, comparisons drawn to how sports were when they were growing up in the area
- c) Nichole Isley – Husband life-long citizen, children are in rec sports, helps husband organize youth football program, looking for clarification on what the programs will look like, would like to know about costs and what the county is covering

c) REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

a)

d) REPORT OF STAFF

- a) Alamance Athletics Update
 - Guil Johnson, Athletic Director with Alamance Parks provided clarification and answered questions in regards to new Fall sports being introduced as well as the traditional sports such as Football and Basketball.

e) OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

- a. Open Seat through June 2025
 - i. Received 1 application for the open seat, Lee Isley (previous board member), motion to approve

- b. Tower Update
 - i. The beginning of the vertical framework has been placed

f) NEW BUSINESS

a) Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- a. Alamance Parks - RTP and Great Trails grants are being applied for together, one purpose is to acquire new property next to Shallow Ford Natural Area (11 acres) that is also next to 13 acres of undeveloped land we currently own to develop a new trail loop, the 25% match will be in-kind through trail building. Being awarded the RTP funds will allow for us to use the Great Trails grant for the replacement of two 40 ft bridges at Shallow Ford, steps to be installed leading to the paddle access and if funds allow we will add 3 tent pads.
- b. Haw River State Trail - \$30K to create a blueway guide, grant will also allow us to put paddle trail markers under each bridge to note what road you're passing, install steps at Altamahaw paddle access, move 40ft bridge at long meadow trail head. Great trails state will allow comprehensive study of the Haw River blueway throughout all counties it passes through.

b) Vacancy – Parks Superintendent

- a. Open through August 30th, job description to be shared among the board and for board members to notify their circles

g) ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Upcoming programs and events

- to be distributed to the board

h) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Next Meeting Tuesday, September 17th at 6:00 pm at Sehlter 4 within Cedarock Park