



Recreation Committee Meeting

Location: *Recreation Main Office*

(1 E. Main St., Thomasville, NC 27360)

Date: 6/7/2022

Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)

- i. Call to order/ Welcome
- ii. Approval of Agenda
- iii. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 04/05/21
- iv. Public Forum – Please sign up on the Public Forum Signup Sheet. A two-minute time limit will be enforced.
- v. Agenda Items
 - a) Updates on the Aquatic & Community Center Project
 - b) Recreation Staff
 - c) Summer Outlook
- vi. Reports:
 - a) Programs/Athletics Report
 - b) Maintenance ReportResponse from Committee Members
- vii. Adjournment:

The Next Committee Meeting Date: 8/2/202



Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 5th, 2022

Present:

Jarrold Dunbar, Hunter Thrift, Tony Vizzini, Colon Starrett, Bill Tagliaferri, and Kathleen Saratte.

Staff Present: Cory Tobin, Molly Hussey, Vince Brown, and Caprishia Davis

Next meeting:

May 3rd, 2022 at the Recreation Main Office

Announcements

Jarrold Dunbar called the meeting to order. Jarrold made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. The motion was approved by Bill Tagliaferri and seconded by Tony Vizzini. Jarrold made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and motion was approved by Kathleen Sarette and seconded by Colon Starrett. The motion was carried unanimously. There was no one who signed up for the Public Forum.

Agenda Items

- a. **UPDATES ON THE AQUATIC & COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT** – The sand filter has arrived and that ties into the entire infrastructure to filter the water and clean the water. There was a slight delay in receiving it because of the supply chain, so that put the project back a couple of weeks. With that in place, the on-site supervisor stated that by May 2 we would see the foundational slab poured. They are also going to be working on the wall framing and placing bricks and mortar around the base of the building. Next week they plan to start the excavating of the pool depth, if weather permits. When they excavate the hole, they will rebar it and they are going to pour a spray in of concrete base but it will not plaster until it is almost time to fill the pool with water because the plaster will stain the pool. The project is now back on schedule and construction continues.
- b. **ARP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES** – The American Rescue Plan (ARP) is federal funding that the city receives to disburse in different areas to influence the community through infrastructure, capital project, community enhancements, nonprofit support, employee support and more. The city received approximately 8 million dollars from federal government, our management and department heads are following the City Council's lead on deciding how to distribute the funds, and where that money will go. The list of eligible activities for our department were to acquire land and create and improve recreation facilities, trails, farms and gardens that encourages outdoor recreation. The maintenance of trails, parks, sport fields, or other amenities, pedestrian improvements with bicycle infrastructure projects, buying outdoor fitness equipment to add to some park spaces, as well as benches, trashcans, and other touchless entities in the facilities.

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- c. **PARK SIGNS / SPRING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS** – We are looking to change the way our signs welcome the community in the park spaces and facilities. We would like to add more friendly and functional wording and graphics instead of it saying a list of No's. We will incorporate the color scheme of our logo in the signage to make it more noticeable to look at and we want it to be welcoming. Jarrod made a motion to approve replacing the old signs and making new signage, Tony Vizzini approved this signage change, and Bill Tagliaferri seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously. The department has been *identifying tasks that should be addressed to improve certain areas in our department*. We have installed a new glass door that is more open and friendly for the community to enter our main office. We are replacing the fencing around the Doak Park Field because we noticed that it is a 30-year-old fence. It is a new commercial grade green fencing with new gates and the yellow tubing on top of the fence to protect jumping on the fence line. Vince will be initiating a sponsorship program for the department for people who are reaching out about signage and we can utilize that for multiple ballfields as well as our stadium and gym. We received a quote to seal coat our basketball court at Carver Park, which is an asphalt court that has cracks and is in need of a resurfacing. It is about \$16,000 – \$17,000 to do a full concrete coating, so for now we will re-coat it and re-line it until we are able to redo the basketball court. We have 2 years of play on our gym floor so in May we will be getting that done. We are pressure washing the entire Finch Field minus the Grand stand and the fire department will wash those down, and we will be doing our Veteran's Point sidewalks, cannons, Strickland Center and our Doak Park playground. Cushwa will be adding a robot that will paint our field lines for us and it will help *our maintenance crew free up some time because this equipment requires one person compared to four individuals having to hold a steady string to draw the lines*. Akeem Davis-Gaither will be hosting a youth football camp at our Cushwa Stadium on June 25. We will be adding a GaGa Ball Pit to our central recreation center, it is a friendlier version of dodgeball, and we think the kids will enjoy this cool feature for the kids to enjoy. It is also portable if we wanted to have an event downtown for Everybody's Day and other programs we hold. In conjunction with "Child At Play" with our Rotary Club, they had funding left over from their grant and before May we will be adding accessible ADA Sambas (outdoor musical elements for playgrounds) to one of our park spaces. They had \$1000 to impact our park areas and we will add this cool element and the city's budget will cover \$2,300 of the \$3,300 cost for the Sambas. Cory Tobin, Jarrod Dunbar, Tony Vizzini, and Hunter Thrift are members of the Rotary Club.

After no further business, Jarrod made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by Kathleen Sarette and was seconded by Bill Tagliaferri. The motion was carried unanimously. The next meeting will be held on May 3rd, 2022 at Recreation Main Office at 12:00PM.



Programs/Athletics Report April 2022

Athletics:

Adult Basketball: The season concluded on Monday, April 25. This was the first time in many years that we held an Adult Basketball. Looking into next season the league will need some adjusting in order to ensure a more positive experience for all participants.

Baseball: for ages 8-9 and 10-12 had great numbers. Girls Softball only had enough for one team and Lexington Parks and Recreation did not have any. The girls were be placed on the baseball teams that coincide with their ages. Practices will began the week of April 11th. The league will be in combination with Lexington Parks and Recreation. Combined in both leagues we had around 80 players registered. The Major division (ages 10-12) will have 3 teams and the Minor Division (ages 8-9) will have 2 teams.

Soccer: The Soccer season continues with some make-up games due to rain. We have close to 140 kids participating in soccer with 10 teams. There are 5 Mighty Mite teams and 5 Little Kicker teams.

Programs:

Easter Egg Hunt - This year's Easter Egg Hunt was held at Myers Park on Saturday April 9th. We had a total of \$600 in donations and 4 volunteers. This event went really well and all the prizes and eggs were collected. The one thing we will change next year is to shorten the periods between each age group to lessen the times for parents and volunteers.

Spring Break Camp - The theme for spring break camp was "cool careers." We had multiple field trips throughout the week. There were 30 kids each day at the camp from 7:30AM-5:30PM daily. We plan to continue this camp each year with a different theme.

Poetry Contest - Our department is partnering again this year with the Thomasville Public Library for the Chair City Poetry Contest. The contest runs from April 15th-30th. Once submissions are sent their will be a panel of judges to identify the winners and receive gift baskets.

Senior Games - Senior games started on Monday April 4th with Opening Ceremonies at our Central Recreation Center. After breakfast, we held basketball shoot and horseshoes. The following week staff helped with bowling at the High Point Bowling Center.

Movie on the Field - On Friday April 22nd we showed the Clifford Movie at Finch Field. This movie had over 150 people in attendance. We gave away popcorn and canned sodas as well as giveaways upon entry. Thank you to all of our Volunteers for helping at this event.

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Senior Club - During the month of April, we held our regular meetings as well as our Easter Potluck. We continue into May with regular scheduled meetings and a field trip!

After School Program: After School program continues as well roll into our Summer Camp Registrations at the beginning of May!

Pickleball/Open Gym: Continues each weekday morning Monday-Friday 8AM-12:30PM at our Central Recreation Center.



Programs/Athletics Report

May 2022

Programs:

- **Summer Camp** - Our Summer camp will consist of 10 weeks this year and 50 participants ranging from Pre-K-5th Grade. The program will be at our Central Recreation Center from 7:30AM-5:30PM Monday-Friday throughout the summer. Our Camp is currently full for participants with about 50% internally and 50% externally.
- **Party in the Park** - We were able to finally hold our Party in the Park again after COVID at our Central Recreation Center. We had a huge turnout after a two-year hiatus due to COVID. This event would not have been possible without all of our community partners! We are looking forward to the next one in October!
- **Senior Club** - We hosted a Kentucky Derby Day with our club members and played multiple racing games. Our club members seemed to have a great time at these social events as well as regular information meetings. The group will attend the Hi-Tom's Baseball game Tuesday May 24 at Finch Field for the senior day 1:00PM game!
- **Drive-In Movie** - Encanto: We had our largest turnout for our drive-in movie yet! We had over 300 people from the community attend this event on Friday May 20 at Cushwa Stadium. We will host our next Drive-In movie in the fall!
- **Water Safety Day** - Tom A. Finch YMCA: We collaborated with the YMCA again this year for Water Safety Day; we had 30 participants ages 3-13. The families really enjoyed the FREE event that helps children learn lifesaving water skills while also having fun. We plan to do this event again next year on May 20!
- **Chair City Poetry Contest** - Our Department along with the Thomasville Public Library hosted the Chair City Poetry Contest. We have 14 entries and a panel of judges who scored these poems! There were three winners and one reader's choice winner. There will be a video of the winners reading their poems going out this week to highlight their work!
- **Soccer 2022:** May was the home stretch for Soccer this year. Within the last week of regularly scheduled games I had to figure out how to schedule a photographer and get medals for all that participated and trophies for the #1 and #2 team in the Mighty Mites. The little kicker's season ended well and the Mighty Mites had their championship and playoff games that ended also. Overall, there was a great turnout with over 120 kids that participated in the 2022 Soccer Season

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- **Flower Pot Painting:** This activity had great participation with around 35-30 participants showing up with kids, parents, young adults, and seniors all enjoyed the activity. Everyone really seemed to enjoy using spray paint and the stencils provided. There were some participants who hand painted their pots but the majority of participants spray painted them and used the stencils provided. Overall a great activity in time for Mother's Day.
 - **Open Gym/ Pickleball:** Continues each weekday from 8:00AM-12:30 PM at our Central Recreation center.

Athletics:

Major (ages 10-12) and Minor (ages 8-9) Baseball have completed preseason practices and are currently in season. We are playing in a combination league with Lexington Parks and Recreation. We have 3 teams in the Major Division and 2 teams in the Minor Division. Games are played at both Doak Park in Thomasville and Finch Park in Lexington. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The season will run through the month of June.

T-ball/C-ball: Registrations will begin the week of June 6th!