Recreation Committee Meeting

Location: *Recreation Main Office*
(1 E. Main St., Thomasville, NC 27360)
Date: 3/7/2023
Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)

I. Call to order/ Welcome

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 02/07/23

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) Playgrounds

c) Spring Programming

VI. Reports:

a) Division Reports

Response from Committee Members

VII. Adjournment: The Next Committee Meeting Date: 4/4/2023

Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2023

Present:	Jarrod Dunbar, Scott Styers, Colon Starrett, Bill Tagliaferri, Kevin Leake, Kathleen Sarette and Steve Bare Staff Present: Cory Tobin, Molly Hussey, Dominique Pickett and Caprisha Davis
Next meeting:	March 7, 2022 at the Recreation Main Office

Announcements

Jarrod Dunbar called the meeting to order. Jarrod asked for a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. The motion was approved by Bill Tagliaferri and seconded by Kathleen Sarette. Jarrod asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and motion was approved by Colon Starrett and seconded by Bill Tagliaferri. 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** – We are getting closer to our finish date. We hope that the site will be dry enough to finish the parking lot and street enhancements. We still have some outlining AV needs because that is a separate from the general contractor that we have on site. The water is running, it is hot and the toilets do flush and walls are painted and functionality within the facility is complete. The interior and pool itself is wrapping up and we are just waiting on the finishing of the parking lot because we have had wet weather that has held the process up. The brain storming for the facility has started and we are now identifying what programs we will have and what days and what is the day to day schedule for the Aquatic center. The staff will be coming together every Monday to have weekly pool meeting to continue to plan for the new facility. We are having to figure out when we will have public swim; toddler swim, senior aerobics, lap swimming; and when our summer camp and other camps will have time to swim as well.
b. **PLANT B COMMUNITY MEETING REVIEW –** There was a meeting about the plant B site on Fisher Ferry Street with the community and what came out of that meeting was good information. It is a large floodplain area, an old industrial site and it has a lot of challenges for the stream and for grading needs; but this could potentially be a major project for the city. Fisher Ferry is being graded and straightened out by DOT and it will get a more flued track up the road instead of the deep curve and this project will take years to complete. The community showed that they would love to see nature, trails, open spaces and that was pretty consistent with what everyone wanted. What is currently there is 150 foot of floodplain on both sides of the creek but now with new standards things are different. The old building was built in the early 1900s so it has

to meet new standards. The idea from the planning committee is to bring it back to its natural state so we can have a natural green space. This work would not be complete until 2024. The assumption would be that the city would obtain 2 properties on/around fisher ferry to make this space complete. The funding becomes a major problem in this because our reserve budget is gone because we used it for the pool.

c. **MYERS PARK PLAYGROUND** – We went to the Thomasville Primary School and had the kids vote on who liked which park the most. The kids chose the Non-Themed Obstacle Course and this was the theme that people voted the most for on social media as well. There are more elements with this playground and there is so much more for kids to do as well as having some toddler components and ADA accessible ground. We are hoping that this will be done and completed by our Easter Egg Hunt on April 1st, if not April 20th at the latest. Myers Park parking lot has been paved and lined recently and we noticed that this playground needed to be upgraded. This park has needed the most attention because it was a playground that needed work and we will have a surface that does not need to be mulched and that will help our maintenance crew out. It has 88 parking spaces and the Rotary Club has paid for a Bottle Filler / Pet Fountain to be put in place of the old fountain. This is one of our premier parks and we are hoping this will help people see that our 2 ball fields need attention as well. The Dog Park at the end of the parking lot is still a topic and potential project that will also be added to Myers Park.

d. **COUNCIL RETREAT ITEMS –** We spoke with City Council at their meeting about our fee schedule being updated. We did not have any fees to update but we did need to add in Late Fees to our rentals and programs. We doubled our athletic registration fee from $10 to $20 and added a Non-Resident Fee of $50 for our rentals that has made a difference in our revenue. Our pool fees will be the same $2 - $3 with an added Summer Pass of $50. Now that we are utilizing RecDesk daily; we went from 100% cash intake to about 20% and now %80 card usage which has made a difference for parents to pay at any hour and not rush to get to our office by 5PM. The late fees will help with a $15 late fee for late sport registrations, if you do not register your child before the cut off time which makes us redo or alter rosters. A $20 late fee for afterschool and summer camp and $50 late fee for our rental reservations because individuals do not pay their fees on the due date. We hope this will help us recoup a little more revenue and we hope that this allows people to take these designed dates seriously. There was discussion that the Winding Creek Golf Course will now be under the umbrella of Parks and Recreation Department. The City Council felt that it should be with our department because there should be more direct management and it sits on its own island and it should be part of Recreation. We have started discussing and planning this transition with our program staff and we look forward to the changes.

After no further business, Jarrod asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be held on March 7, 2023 at Recreation Main Office at 12:00PM.

Program/Athletics Report
February 2023

Senior Club: Our Senior Club continues to meet weekly on Wednesdays. During the month of February, we had a Valentine's Day potluck and visited the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.

After School: The Afterschool Program is still going strong. They have all participated in numerous activities such as fitness, games and art projects. On February 14, the Afterschool kids had a Valentine's Day party with chocolate, chips, juice and cupcakes. On February 28, Nick Williams took the kids to
Myers Park to give them the chance to read the Story Walk and play at the playground.

Black History Month Drive-Thru event: On Tuesday February 21st, we held our Black History Month Drive-Thru event at the Clock tower in Downtown Thomasville. We had about 40 kids come through the event and our Committee member Kathleen volunteered at this event!

Aquatics Center Programing: We have started hammering out a programing schedule for weekday times. Also already booked we will offer Lifeguard training and certifications in the beginning of May. We are scheduled to host the Davidson County Swim meet on July 21 and 22. We have hammered out a schedule including programing for summer camps and allowing plenty of time for open swim, with the time available to add more programs.

Outdoor Adventure Programs: Registrations have opened for a guided hike on March 18 the Stone Mountain Park loop trail which will be roughly 4.5 miles.

Spring Break Camp: Program Planning have begun the program will be April 10th-14th
Park Trail Story Walk: This Month we offered "Mea Among the Stars", Dr. Mea Jameson who was the first African American female Astronaut

Adult Open Gym: There are approximately 7 basketball participants registered for our Adult Open Gym Basketball program. This program is for adults 25 and older and will begin Wednesday, March 15th from 6:00-8:00pm at Central Recreation Center.

Pickleball- The first six months for paid registration has passed and many of the participants have already re-registered for another 6 months. We currently have 53 registered members.

Center- We currently promoting and registering participants for our Wednesday Night Basketball and our Kids Night Out.

Basketball: There are approximately 151 basketball participants registered throughout our three divisions: D-League - Ages 5-6 (29 participants / 3 teams); G-League - Ages 7-9 (72 participants / 6 teams); Pro-Am - Ages 10-12 (50 participants / 4 teams). Regular season games started Saturday, January 21, 2023. All regular season and tournament games are played at Central Recreation Center on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Our D-League regular season ends this Saturday, March 4th, 2023; G-League Tournament started Tuesday, February 21, 2023; Pro-Am Tournament is set to start Monday March 6, 2023. All tournament games will be played at Central Recreation Center.

Soccer: There are approximately 144 soccer participants registered throughout our three divisions: Kiddie Kickers - Ages 5-6 (49 participants); Mighty Mites - Ages 7-9 (59 participants); Premier League - Ages 10-12 (37 participants).

Coming Up in March:

Soccer Season

Hiking Program – March 18th

Parents Night Out – March 24th

TACC – Hiring Event (TBD)

Easter Egg Hunt – April 1st

MAINTENANCE UPDATE FEBRUARY 2023

__Fire extinguisher inspections
__Pick up trash in parks daily
__Empty trash at playgrounds weekly
__Set up for Senior meetings as need
__Checking supplies in buildings weekly
__Checking heat in buildings
__Reinforced 5 outside light fixtures at Central
__Did some Maintenance work on weed eaters
__Clean Carver 2 times a week
__Trimmed bushes at Hitoms office
__Installed new base anchors at Myers #2 field
__Sprayed Finch field
__Added dirt to Finch field
__Sprayed Veterans Point
__Sprayed Pace park
__Mulched playground at Ballpark
__Turned water on at Finch Field
__Fixed water leaks in restrooms and concession stand at Finch Field
__Worked on driveway at King Row
__Having new gate installed at Finch Field