Recreation Committee Meeting

Location: Thomasville Aquatics and Community Center
(20 Stadium Dr., Thomasville, NC 27360)
Date: 03/05/2024
Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)

I. Call to order/ Welcome

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 12/05/23

IV. Public Forum – Please sign up on the Public Forum Signup Sheet. A two-minute time limit will be enforced.

V. Agenda Items

a) Recreation Master Plan

b) Accessible Parks Grant

c) Spring Projects

VI. Reports:

a) Division Reports

Response from Committee Members

VII. Adjournment: The Next Committee Meeting Date: 04/02/2024

Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2023

Present:	Jarrod Dunbar, Scott Styers, Hunter Thrift, Colon Starrett, Bill Tagliaferri, Kathleen Sarette, Steve Bare, Elisha Hope, Justin Finch, Pat Shelton, and Allen Crockett Staff Present: Cory Tobin, Molly Lassiter, Dominique Pickett, and Caprisha Davis Absent: Tony Vizzini
Next meeting:	January 2, 2024 at Thomasville Aquatics and Community Center

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. The motion was carried unanimously. Jarrod asked for a motion to make a change to the agenda for approval. The motion was approved by Steve Bare and seconded by Bill Tagliaferri. The motion was carried unanimously. Jarrod asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and motion was approved by Kathleen Sarette and seconded by Steve Bare. The motion was carried unanimously. There was no one who signed up for the Public Forum.

Agenda Items

a. **RECREATION MASTER PLAN DEBUTE DATE** – The recreation master plan has gone through most of the formal processes for months; whether it has been getting community outreach from online surveys to the Everybody's Day setup and now we are at the final stage for completing the master plan and will be receiving the final copy by the end of the week. Once we have received the emailed copy from Withers Ravenel; we will be giving hardcopies of the final book to our staff; recreation committee members and City Council members and administration. This master plan will highlight what we already have within the city, the level of service being provided in certain areas and in those areas what it looks like for our community and what we see going forward. This has identified what we should start working on now and what we should do in the future to uplift and bring more to the City of Thomasville.
b. **WINTER PROJECTS UNDERWAY** – The shelter is being removed from the Lions Shelter at the bottom of Memorial Park. We will be getting a similar shelter placed there like the shelter that is on the pool deck. The aluminum style shelter will be placed at our maintenance shop and hopefully our crew can put it to good use. We did receive $15,000 from the Doak Finch Foundation to help removed and put new fencing up at our Central Recreation Center around our athletic field. It will be a smooth black style fencing. We have been doing a lot of work at the Central location in hopes of making that a Central Rec Campus since the Main Office will now be relocating to the building on the corner of Taylor Street.

We are currently having work done and hope to be in by the spring. We will be adding walls to ensure we have enough offices and getting work done to the meeting room as well as welcome space. With the main office being closer to the center; we plan to get a lot fixed up and having Central Rec be the main hub for our department. The light poles at Central have also been removed around the field. The concessions stand area in front of Central has been reroofed and now we will be fixing up the bathrooms by Soccer so that our parents have a functional bathroom. Winding Creek Golf Course is adding a bathroom as well between hole 3 and the back of Tee Box 15 and 16.

c. **CITY WIDE UPDATES –** City Council did support a salary study for the department and the city wide departments. It was in comparison to the piedmont triad region. It was a very thorough process from April until December and they found that there are some areas that are on target with the salary put in place. It put the city to an 86% to a 95% in the salary study. We are thankful for the City Council; Administration and the Finance department for their hard work on making this happen for the entire city.

d. **HOLIDAY PROGRAMS –** The Grinch from the Steven Tanger Center did join us for the Grinch Stole Christmas book reading and we had a great turnout with about 50 kids or more. Craft Fair event was very successful with 33 vendors and at least 500 people were able to stop by. The senior club was able to raise over $400 selling concessions. The Light Up the Holiday event was held on November 18th and our maintenance staff has done a great job with helping decorate PACE Park and setting up for the Christmas holiday. We held an Employee Lunch and Play event at our Central Rec Center playing Pickleball and we had a great time. We had employees from the city come and enjoy a game of Pickleball and then was able to enjoy lunch from Barbeque Shack. We hope to have more of these Lunch and Play events at least once every quarter. We will be having a Cultural Christmas Experience on December 7th from 5PM – 7PMand we will be having a Black Santa come to our Central Recreation Center to visit the kids and we are so excited about this event because this is something that individual in the community have been wanting for a long time and we are excited. Pancakes with Santa will be December 16th at the TACC from 9AM – 10:30AM and we'll be serving pancakes with special toppings and Healthy Blue will be there to set up a hot chocolate bar for the kids. Santa Clause Calling starts in December and parents can sign their kids up to get a special call from Santa Clause and we appreciate our Fire Department for helping us with this. Winter Camp will be December 27th – 29th at the Central Rec Center and this is offered to our afterschool kids as well as all kids in the community. Registrations have been up since November 29th and will close it on December 23rd.

After no further business, Colon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be January 2, 2024 at the Thomasville Aquatics and Community Center.

Thomasville NORTH CAROLINA PARKS & RECREATION

Programs/Athletics Report January 2024

Athletics:

Youth Basketball - Registration started October 1st, 2023 and concluded November 30th, 2023. There are approximately 196 basketball participants registered throughout our four divisions: D-League (Ages 5-6) - 53 participants / 4 teams; G-League (Ages 7-9) - 62 participants / 5 teams; Pro-Am (Ages 10-12) - 51 participants / 4 teams; Pro-Am (WNBA) (Girls Ages: 9-12) - 30 participants / 3 teams.

Programs:

Santa Claus Calling – This year we had 68 children for Santa Claus Calling, we collaborated again with TFD to make these phone calls to the kids registered.

Holiday Drive-Thru Event – We made and had 100 kids registered for the Holiday Drive-Thru event. This bag focused on Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanzaa. We also had handmade bears donated by Council Woman Lisa Shell and PetSmart. Every child went home with a bag full of goodies and a stuffed animal of their choice. Committee member Kathleen and her husband Rich volunteered at this event.

Pancakes with Santa – We moved the location this year to the TACC. We had a great turnout and many volunteers including Mayor Raleigh York, Councilman Hunter Thrift, City Manager Michael Brandt, Committee Member Kathleen Sarette, and her husband Rich.

Letters to Santa – We had over 100 postcards that we sent to kids from Santa Claus this year with the mailbox located at our main office. Councilwoman Payton Williams officially signed Santa's name on each postcard.

Christmas Parade – Our youth football players and cheerleaders participated in the 2024 Christmas Parade and won "Most Spirited"

Senior Club – Our Senior Club members had their annual dinners as well as two field trips including Journey to Bethlehem and the Fruit Cake Factory.

Cultural Christmas Experience – We had a great turnout with our Cultural Christmas Experience, where kids from our community were able to sit and visit with a cultural Santa. Hot chocolate was given to each of the participants.

Winter Camp – This year we hosted a 3 – ½ Day winter camp at our Central Recreation Center. Each day the kids cooked a different meal including breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We had 30 kids in attendance each day.

Pickleball/Open Gym – Continue each day at our Central Recreation Center from 9:00AM-12:30PM.

Afterschool – Our program operates daily and follows all Thomasville City Schools guidelines from winter weather. We have 52 kids in our program.

February Report

Programs:

6 Month Planning – All programming staff have gotten together to plan for our next 6 months, please see insert for programs and upcoming events.

Men's' & Women's Blind Draw Tournament – We hosted our second Blind Draw Tournament at our Central Recreation Center for Pickleball. We had 24 registered participants and the feedback was great from the group.

Glow Golf – On Friday January 26 we hosted our Glow Vibe Golf inside of our Central Recreation Gym and has over 100 people come spend their Friday night with us. We had lots of City Employees as well as a few Recreation Committee Member families.

Bridging the Triad – We have 5 participants from Thomasville going to Regional Competition which will be held at the TACC on Saturday February 24th. We collaborate this STEM event with Lexington, High Point, Greensboro, Kernersville and Winston-Salem Parks and Recreation Departments.

Senior Club – Our Senior club kicked off the New Year with a "Souper-Bowl" event, speakers and a fieldtrip to the High Point Bowling Center. In February, we will celebrate Black History month with a fieldtrip to the International Civil Rights Museum.

TCS Tutoring Collaboration – We met with TCS staff to allow for tutoring for our ASP kids. TCS will pay the teachers to come afterhours and help students with extra help. This will start in the middle of February

Athletics:

Youth Basketball Registrations/Practices - Registration started October 1st, 2023 and concluded November 30th, 2023. There are approximately 198 basketball participants registered throughout our four divisions: D-League (Ages 5-6) - 54 participants / 4 teams; G-League (Ages 7-9) - 62 participants / 5 teams; Pro-Am (Ages 10-12) - 51 participants / 4 teams; Pro-Am (WNBA) (Girls Ages: 9-12) - 31 participants / 3 teams

Youth Basketball Games - will start games the first week of February. Pro-Am League games will start Monday, February 5th, 2024. D-League games will start Tuesday, February 6th, 2024. G-League and WNBA League games will start Thursday, February 15th, 2024. All Youth Basketball League Games will be held at Central Recreation Center.

Youth Soccer registrations - for all four divisions opened Thursday, February 1st, 2024. There are approximately 40 soccer participants registered throughout our four divisions: Kiddie Kickers: Ages 4-6 (6 participants); Mighty Mites: Ages 7-9 (23 participants); Premier League (Boys) - Ages 10-12 (6 participants); Premier League (Girls): Ages 9-12 (5 participants).

Upcoming:

- Bridging the Triad Regional Competitions.
- C.O.O.K. Class – March 2nd
- TCS Tutoring – Mid February
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Soccer Registrations – Feb 1st

Thomasville NORTH CAROLINA PARKS & RECREATION

Programs/Athletics Report February & March 2024

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March 2024

Senior Club – Our senior club continues to meet weekly at our Ball Park Community Center. In February we attended the International Civil Rights Museum to celebrate Black History Month and held our Valentine's Day celebration

Bridging the Triad – Regional Competition was held at our Thomasville Aquatics and Community Center. We had 4 participants from Thomasville including 2 firemen.

Departmental Video – We are working on a professional video for our Department and we were able to capture not only staff but participants! This will be shown at our Annual Appreciation Banquet.
Appreciation Banquet Planning – Tuesday, March 19th at Bethel Global Methodist Church. Invitations, gifts and decorations have been ordered and planned throughout February.
ASP/ASP Tutoring – Evander Davis did a Black History Month program throughout February with Bingo, fun facts and a movie. We have partnered with TCS teachers for tutoring on Mondays and Tuesdays for all TCS kids in our afterschool program. The kids receive additional help and resources for 30 minutes each day.
C.O.O.K. Class – We held this class last Saturday, March 2nd at our Central Recreation Center.
Pickleball – Continues every day Monday-Friday from 9:30AM-12:30PM.
Spring Break Camp – Planning and registrations. This year's theme is sports-related and hosted by our Recreation Specialist, Evander Davis. The camp will be April 1st-5th from 7:30AM-5:30PM.

Athletics:
Youth Soccer registrations for all four divisions ended Friday, March 1st, 2024. There are approximately 175 soccer participants registered throughout our four divisions: Kiddie Kickers: Ages 4-6 (55 participants); Mighty Mites: Ages 7-9 (60 participants); Premier League (Boys) - Ages 10-12 (32 participants); Premier League (Girls): Ages 9-12 (28 participants).
Youth Soccer Skills and Drills Registration opened on Friday, March 1st, 2024, and will end on Saturday, March 16th, 2024. There are approximately 26 soccer participants registered throughout our four divisions: Kiddie Kickers: Ages 4-6 (10 participants); Mighty Mites: Ages 7-9 (11 participants); Premier League (Boys) - Ages 10-12 (2 participants); Premier League (Girls): Ages 9-12 (3 participants). Skills and Drills will be held at Central Recreation Center on Wednesday, March 20th, 2024 (Kiddie Kickers / Mighty Mites) and Thursday, March 21st, 2024 (Premier Leagues) from 6pm until 8pm.

Upcoming:

- Appreciation Banquet – Tuesday, March 19th at 6:00PM
- Easter Egg Hunt - March 23rd – Myers Park
- Chess Classes Registration (March) Classes begin (April)
- Kids Night Out – Friday, March 15th from 6:30PM-8:30PM
- Soccer Skills & Drills and Practices