

**Recreation Advisory Committee**  
**January 17, 2024**

Location: Parks & Recreation Office – 964 East St. Suite 100, Pittsboro, NC 27312

Attendees: Tracy Burnett, J. Stamey, Caitlin Murphy, James Fogleman, Anne Geer, Joy Hewett, Megan Lynch, Keith Barlow, Kent Barlow, Guadalupe Perez, Will Sparrow

**Welcome**

- James welcomes everyone.

**Approve Minutes**

- James called the meeting to order.
- Anne motioned to approve the minutes from 11/15/23.
- Megan seconded the motion.

**Staffing Update**

- Tracy gives updates on new positions we are interviewing for.
- Arts Program Supervisor starts January 29<sup>th</sup> 2024.
  - Leigh Babcock is filling this role, we are excited to have her on board.
- Hiring two Park Technicians, one for Northeast District Park and one for Northwest District Park.
- Our name has been rebranded to include Cultural Resources due to the new arts position.
  - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources
- We are excited to welcome the new staff members.

**Grants to Organization Process**

- Tracy asked members to look over the timeline for the grant application process.
- March 15, 2024– Announcement goes out for the opportunity to apply.
- April 12, 2024 – Applications open on Foundant.
- One item cannot exceed \$5,000
- Encourage groups to apply and spread awareness about the opportunity for the grants.
- Tracy and Caitlin went over the Grant Application Form and the Evaluation Form to ensure the questions and answers line-up.
  - We can edit as needed.
- Wednesday, May 15, 2024 is a Recreation Advisory Committee meeting date.
  - We will do a training/refresher on the Foundant process.
  - June 19, 2024 we will complete the evaluation process.
- Can groups request funds for Arts now due to addition of Cultural Resources name?
  - Score based on the Matrix.

### **Parker's Ridge Update**

- Working on the RFQ (Request for Qualifications for construction manager at risk)
  - Working on the construction drawings with Stewart Engineering.
  - Once that is done, the RFQ will be ready, and we can hire the construction manager.
  - They oversee the entire project, and ensure it stays within the allotted funds.
- James asked about the timeframe for the project, when will it start?
  - It is hard to say a timeline currently. We will have a better idea once we get past the stages we are working on.
- Can we partner with Wolfspeed or are there any opportunities there?
  - Possible event sponsor?
- Do we have a county policy on naming facilities?
  - Tracy and J. will look into this some more. They started a discussion with one of the county's Budget Analysts.
  - They will follow-up with updates on this.

### **Haw River Feasibility Study Update**

- The Board of Commissioners approved the study at the November 20, 2023 meeting.
- Ben is working on Haw River Safety Collaboration and other projects.
  - Laying the foundation for the future and doing a lot of research to see what is out there.
  - County Board was interested in how they can help contribute at the November 20, 2023 meeting.
- New trail at Northeast Park with help from funds from Haw River Assembly on behalf of George Pauly's estate.
  - Ben will get volunteers to help build the trail.
- Ben applied for a grant and received it to help get Trail Crew Leaders Training on February 17 and 18, 2024.
  - Helps the county save funds due to volunteers.
- We may be able to partner with the Triangle Land Conservancy.
- Alamance County river accesses – Ben has spoken with them on their river access points for possible ideas we may be able to implement in Chatham County.

### **Northeast Park Project**

- Andrew George is working on a Disc Golf course.
- Tracy and J. are going to walk the trail with Andrew on Friday.
- Will let everyone know if there are any work days that people can come help with.

### **Others**

- Tracy mentioned we have our Program Guide out in the lobby and on line.
- Working towards more adaptive and inclusive programs.

- Adult Co-Ed Softball and T-Ball registration is now open.
- More adult programming and cooking classes.
- Second year of the Footgolf Tournament at Southwest District Park.
  - Basically golf with a soccer ball.
- We are active on Instagram, Facebook, and Nextdoor.
- We have a RecConnect Newsletter that goes out every Friday.
  - Sign up Guadalupe for this in RecDesk so she can see them.
- Girls on the Run – Mallory is working on starting a program with them.
  - We have a running club currently.
- Joy complimented the Holiday in the Park lights at Northwest District Park.
  - Luminaries on the pond were fun.
  - Santa tree lighting.
  - Arts and crafts with the kids.
  - Hayride around the pond.
- Youth Basketball is going well.
  - Refs are doing great, gym supervisors are doing great keeping things rolling.
  - Sometimes it is hard to get coaches and volunteers.

### **Adjourn**

- James motioned to adjourn the meeting.
  - Tracy seconded the motion.
  - Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.
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