

Recreation Advisory Committee
March 20, 2024

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

Attendees: Tracy Burnett, J. Stamey, Caitlin Murphy, Mallory Peterson, Cameron Lee, Andrew Harrison, Leigh Babcock, Megan Lynch, Keith Shea, Joy Hewett, Will Sparrow, Anne Geer, Andrew George

Welcome

- Megan welcomes everyone

Approve Minutes

- Megan called the meeting to order
- Joy motioned to approve minutes from 1/17/24
- Will seconded the motion

Staff Introductions

- Tracy would like to introduce our Program Supervisors
- Andrew Harrison:
 - He has been with us since 2006.
 - Started with Athletics and has transitioned to the Community Center Supervisor.
- Mallory Peterson:
 - She has been with us about 4.5 years.
 - Program Supervisor for Summer Camp, Special Events, & Outdoor Recreation.
 - She also does marketing/social media & serves on various committees.
 - Working on ramping up the outdoor recreation programs.
 - Collaborates with different agencies like the Chatham Libraries, senior games, and other community engagement projects.
- Cameron Lee:
 - He has been with us since October 2023.
 - Athletics Program Supervisor and helps with outdoor recreation programs with Mallory.
 - Ran the Youth Basketball program this year. Transitioning into spring sports like T-Ball, volleyball, and various sport camps.
 - Senior guided hikes are included in the summer 2024 program guide.
- Leigh Babcock:
 - She has been with us for 8 weeks so far and is the new Arts & Cultural Program Supervisor.
 - Excited to create a space for art educational programming. Working on turning the “Program Room” into the “Art Room.”
 - Going to offer a lot of new programs, can also use the space for “special events” like poetry readings and creative writing.

- Worked with Norfolk Parks & Recreation for many years.
- Tracy expressed gratitude for all our staff and the hard work they do.

Grants to Organization Timeframe

- We have been working to finalize the grants application, getting dates updated for FY25.
- Application will be available Friday, April 12, 2024
- Application will close on May 10, 2024
- Email has been sent to previous applicants to let them know timeline for this year and a news release was sent out.
- May 15, 2024, we will bring the presenters in to hear their proposals.
 - This will also be the refresher date to go over the evaluation process.
- June 26, 2024, will be the date we come back to do the recommendations.
- Tracy, Caitlin, & J. will be looking over the applications as they come in to make sure they qualify and are eligible to receive funds.
- Would like the presenters to tell us if they received funding in the past and what it was used for.
- Are art organizations eligible to apply?
 - They must fit into the funding criteria to be eligible.
 - A few examples are:
 - Improve parks
 - Protect natural resources
 - Enhance recreational opportunities
 - Provide new services
 - Develop program management principles
 - Improve access to parks
- Also, must be a non-profit and check all the other boxes to even be able to apply.
- Town of Goldston used FY24 grant funds to help improve their HVAC in the recreational building.

Parker's Ridge Park Update

- Not much update since our last meeting.
- Getting information and paperwork for RFQ (Request for Qualifications for Construction Manager at Risk).
 - Working with the Finance department on getting this finalized.

Trails & Open Space Updates

- Interested in expanding recreational opportunities on property beside the South Bynum River access.

Others

- Naming rights in parks update?
 - Still waiting to hear back on this.

- Joy mentioned group of women helping with climate issues is interested in doing a table about food waste, etc. “Together We Can.”
 - Interested in putting a table up for a day quarterly at each park.
 - We would need to look into the county policies on this.
 - May have better outreach at events where more people are gathered.
 - This may be something Solid Waste & Recycling can help with.
 - Shannon Culpepper is a good contact for this.
- Any updates on disc golf at Northeast District Park?
 - J. will follow up with Ben when he is back from his conference.
 - The plan will be to move baskets around instead of leaving them in one spot.
- Next meeting is May 15, 2024

Adjourn

- Andrew motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- Anne seconded the motion.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm