

## RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

March 5 2020

### MINUTES

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marvin Norman, Ronda Hoke, Seth Hathcock, Scott Bell, Melissa Simmons, Deb Tatu, Barb Thorson, Kevin Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michelle Hepler, Stacy McGlamery

Parks and Recreation Director, Michelle Hepler welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order and asked Barb Thorson to lead the prayer.

No requests to speak.

***Ronda Hoke made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2020 meeting. Seth Hathcock seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

### STAFF REPORTS.

**Division / Program Title:** Administration and Operations Mgt

**Person Responsible for the division/program:** Michelle Hepler

**Additional Staff support (full or part time employees):** Jen Winters, Stacy McGlamery

Division updates since August Meeting:

ONGOING OR CONTINUED AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Maintain collaborative partnerships, or serve on committees with the following:
  - City of Statesville Parks and Recreation (Michelle)
  - Troutman Parks and Recreation (Michelle)
  - NC Department of Public Safety and Community Corrections (Stacy)
  - Chamber of Commerce – Statesville’s Leading Ladies (Michelle)
  - Association for Challenge Course Technology Ethics Committee, ACCT Design, Performance, Inspections Standards work group (Michelle)
  - Get Fit Iredell- community wellness group (Jen)
  - KICKS Committee-County Employee Wellness group (Jen)
  - Iredell County Child Safety Committee (aka Safe Kids) (Jen)
  - ONGOING: As requested by Assistant County Manager, collating and submitting weekly reports including Highlights, Upcoming deliverables, and Past Deliverables.
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NEW UPDATES FROM DIRECTOR:

- Ongoing work with Facility Services department to develop long-term strategies for projects and maintenance of parks and facilities, specifically Scotts, Stumpy Creek, and East Iredell Lions Club, and Recreation Center improvements.
- Continue to work on FY20 facility improvement projects; prioritizing for Recreation Center with Rec Center Manager.
- Continue to work with Carolina Wake Surf to plan / host amateur and pro event in July at Stumpy Creek. All agency approvals are in place.

- Submitted departmental and recreation center budgets to Finance on 2/18. Initial review meeting will be held on March 5<sup>th</sup>, with Assistant County Manager.
- Presented comprehensive master planning process update, as well as capital projects overview to the Board of Commissioners on February 21, 2020.
- Received final survey data relevant to Comprehensive Master Plan. Working with GreenPlay and administration to finalize the Key Issues Matrix and final materials requests for the first draft.
- Continue to prioritize tasks and requirements for PARTF grant application, now that approvals are in place from BOC and RAB.
- Continue working with Woodmen of the World, Building Standards, and Facility Services to coordinate Community Project Work Day Event for May 16, 2020. Submitted project wish list and budget numbers to representatives for planning and fundraising purposes. Primary focus is to develop ADA parking and access to the soccer field in front of the Recreation Center.
- Conducted Jennings Park Focus Group meeting on 2/26/20. Five members attended, and brainstormed ideas to help generate awareness of the project. Working to print a map of the final park plan, along with a fundraising thermometer to show status and support needed.
- Attended a Multi-jurisdictional webinar on planning and trail projects, presented by NCSU and Recreation Resource Services.
- Coordinating with Rotary for check presentation to Board of Commissioners on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for \$4,000 to support construction of the picnic shelter at the ropes course at Jennings Park.

#### Updates from Assistant Director:

- Get Fit Iredell committee update: Dodgeball event on 2/22: Had 5 teams compete. Family Fun Day Event May 3 at Lake Norman State Park. All events free and open to the public
- KICKS Committee: Working to plan Employee 5k on May 2 at 9am at the Rec Center Lawn/Greenway
- Departmental Safety Committee: Working on training lists and SDS books
- Safe Kids NC: NC Wildlife Resources Commission and Duke Energy will be putting Lifejacket Loaner Kiosks at Stumpy Creek Boat Launch and Pinnacle Boat Launch this spring. Duke is handling the install for the kiosks, and NCWRC has gotten some lifejackets donated. NCWRC will monitor the kiosks and replace lifejackets as needed. Anticipated to open in April or early May.

#### Special Events and Programs:

- April 18<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 – 5:00 pm - Volunteer Appreciation Event at Rec Center
- May 2 at 9am- Iredell County Employee 5k at the Rec Center/Greenway
- May 16<sup>th</sup> – all day - Woodmen of the World Community Project Day – at Rec Center

**Division / Program Title:** Adult Program / Special Events

**Person Responsible for the division/program:** Kim Goodin

**Additional Staff support (full or part time employees):**

Program overview: Plan / implement adult programs, which include trips day and overnights, variety of classes and execute Special Events

Program registration information (start dates, schedules, ages, etc.):

Program registration numbers (if applicable):

3/5 Flat Rock- 24 FULL (Ticket Cut Off)

3/12 Wohlfahrt Haus-37

3/20 Riverbanks Zoo-35

Spring Overnight Trip 3/29 – 4/3 to the Outer Banks – 44

Working on 2020 Spring Newsletter-Should have ready to mail out by March 18

Special Events: Department Events

4/25-Spring Parking Lot Treasure @ Rec. Center-Spots avail for \$10.00

Senior Games begins April 24<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 7<sup>th</sup>. Social Event will be March 14.

Working on securing a date for Spring Golf Tournament

**Division / Program Title:** Athletics

**Person Responsible for the division/program:** Daniel Taylor

**Additional Staff support (full or part time employees):** Christian Williams, Marty Hanline, and Wayne Harwell.

Program overview: Athletic programs and partnered association programs, including youth recreation soccer, youth Babe Ruth baseball, adult tournaments, referee clinics & self-defense classes.

Program registration information (start dates, schedules, ages, etc.):

Soccer (ICPRD)

- Practice: February 14 – May 15
- Games: February 28-May 17, excluding I-SS Spring Break and East Weekend
  - Locations: IC Rec Center Field, Troutman ESC Park, Statesville Soccer Complex, Statesville Boys & Girls Club, Fairview Baptist Church, Jennings Park & Scotts Rosenwald Park.
  - U6 = Fridays (3 Fields) 6:00 PM & 7:00 PM
  - U8 = Saturdays (2 Fields) 8:00 AM – 2:15 PM
  - U10 = Saturdays (2 Fields) 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
  - U12 = Saturdays (1 Field) 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM
  - Makeups reserved for Sundays after 2 PM and May 16 & 17

Soccer (Partnered with SISA)

- Practice: February 25 – May 8 @ Stumpy Creek Park – Soccer Fields
  - Monday – Friday: 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM
- Games: March 14 –May 10 @ Stumpy Creek Park – Soccer Fields
  - U8 – U18 = Saturdays: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
  - U6 = Sundays: 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Baseball (Partnered with NPBR & LAYAC)

- Registration Dates: Now – March 5
- Umpires Meeting: March 1, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM at Jennings Park Club House
- NPBR Coaches Meetings (Jennings Parks Club House):
  - T-Ball: March 16, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
  - 7/8's: March 17, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
  - 9/10's: March 18, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

- 11/12's: March 19, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- NPBR Practice: March 8 – May 21
- NPBR Games: March 21 – May 21
- LAYAC Baseball Skills Day: March 16
- LAYAC Practice: March 18 – May 21
- LAYAC Games: Late March – May 21

Karate Classes (Partnered Organization)

- Current Class Dates: September 14<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup>  
Location: Northview IB School, 9:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Program registration numbers (if applicable):

ICPRD Soccer = 676 participants, 63 Teams, 132 Volunteer Coaches

\*Largest participation rate to record. 56 participants larger than fall 2019

SISA Soccer = TBD

NPBR Baseball = TBD

LAYAC Baseball = TBD

Karate/Self Defense = 116 participants

Special Events: N/A

Volunteer/program/facility needs: In need of new baseball umpires. Please contact Daniel Taylor if you know anyone 16 and older interested.

Upcoming event dates:

- February 28 – u6 Soccer Opening Weekend (Jennings Park)
- February 29 – u8-u12 Soccer Opening Weekend (Troutman ESC Park & Statesville Soccer Complex)
- March 1 – Baseball Umpires Training Meeting (Jennings Club House)
- March 1 – Soccer Referees Training / Clinic (ICRC Rec Center & ICRC Field) 2 PM-4 PM
- March 4 – ARS & I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Graham, Jennings; Field 1 & 2) 4 PM-9 PM
- March 16 – NPBR Baseball Skills Day (Stumpy; Graham, Howard, Ebert) 5:30 PM-9 PM
- March 17 – ARS & I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Graham, Jennings; Field 1 & 2) 4 PM-9 PM
- March 18 – I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Ebert & Graham) 4 PM-9 PM
- March 19 – I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Ebert & Graham, Jennings; Field 1 & 2) 4 PM-9 PM
- March 16 -19 – NPBR Coaches Meetings (Jennings Club House) 6 PM-7:30 PM
- March 25 – I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Ebert, Graham) 4 PM-9 PM
- March 26 – ARS MS Baseball Game (Stumpy; Graham Field)
- April 2 – ARS & I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Graham, Jennings; Field 1 & 2) 4 PM-9 PM
- April 6 – I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Games (Stumpy; Ebert & Graham, Jennings; Field 1 & 2) 4 PM-9 PM
- April 8 – I-SS MS Baseball/Softball Game (Stumpy; Ebert & Graham) 4 PM-9 PM
- April 18 – ICPRD Volunteer Appreciation Celebration (ICRC Field) 12 PM-6PM

Additional Information:

- Jennings Park Maintenance
  - Jennings Park Baseball Lights are contracted out to be repaired. (14 lights on 4 different fields)
  - Jennings Park new baseball dirt (25 tons of sand/soil mix) delivered. It is the same dirt as the new middle school baseball fields. The soil supposed to filter water better and be safer than current rock dust top soil. We plan to distribute the dirt to baseball fields 3 & 4 during I-SS spring break. If all works well with this test, Stumpy Creek Park receive the next load.
  - Handicap Parking at Field 4. Working on a better solution.
- Baseball Insurance has been purchased for the 2020 calendar year
- FY 2021 Athletic Strategic Goal
  - State Survey of athletic facilities & programs: Completed.
  - Needs assessment: Conducting in 2020 Master Plan.

**Division / Program Title:** OEC and Youth Programs

**Person Responsible for the division/program:** Seth Gardner

**Additional Staff support (full or part time employees):** PT OEC Staff

Program overview: Schedule and implement new Outdoor and Youth programs at Jennings OEC and outside facilities.

Program information:

- (Moved facility/park specific projects to the "Parks" report)
- Ropes course inspection and facilitator training being scheduled for March.
- Archery and Camping classes/programs are in development.
- Looking to increase our mobile teambuilding capabilities with new staff trainings, and marketing to increased markets within and outside of the Iredell County Area.
- Summer Camps: Currently planning for camp registration opening, camp schedules, staffing, etc.
- Afterschool camp: did not "make"
  - One child in January
  - None in February
  - Will try again at beginning of next school year.

Program registration numbers (if applicable):

- Challenge Course: We have served 450 unique individuals since May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019.
- 90-member mobile team-building program booked for mid-April.
- 2 large group programs scheduled for the end of April 2020. 300 anticipated participants for that week.

Special Events: Department Events

- Will be offering an Open House at the Outdoor Education Center in March, tentatively planned for March 28 from 9am-noon
- Spring Break Camp planned for March 9-13, Registration closes March 2
- Summer Camp registration tentatively planned to open April 1. Camp dates (8 weeks) would be June 1-July 24

**Division / Program Title:** Iredell County Recreation Center

**Person Responsible for the division/program:** James Huffman

**Additional Staff Support (full employees):** Ronda Benfield, Nancy Grabow

Additional Part time staff

- Front Desk – 9
- Group Exercise – 8
- Child Watch - 2

Program overview:

Plan/implement group fitness, manage fitness center, basketball court, community events, corporate programs, pool, walking track, rental groups, personal training, and child watch. Offer the best member support and satisfaction.

Iredell County Recreation Center Mission Statement: To enhance the quality of life through excellence in programs of wellness, fitness and fun

Program information:

- February's member(s) of the month were Henry and Faye Johnson.
  - Henry and Faye are dedicated members that are always smiling and willing to lend a helping hand. They have been married 21 years. Henry is very good to Faye's three children and eight grandchildren. They come to the Rec Center, walk the track every day and say that everyone here is very nice and welcoming.
- February's Rec Center staff member of the month is Missy Jablonski.
- Pool hours are being adjusted to better serve the community.
  - Mondays-Fridays were 9am-6pm during the 2019 season.
  - These hours will change to 10am-7pm for the 2020 season.
- Plan to allow 12 and 13 year olds to utilize the fitness center when exercising with a parent/legal guardian.
- The February exercise incentive had 200 participants, far exceeding expectations.
- Intro to pickleball has kicked off and is maxing out participants on a weekly basis.
- James attended pool hazard training on February 25.
- Ronda attended marketing and event training on Feb 25 & 26.
- Flyers were distributed to all full time employees of Engineered Sintered Components to promote their corporate membership benefit.
- Spring Break Camp March 9-13
- Vendor registration for the Parking Lot Treasure Bargains started, Feb 27.
  - This community yard and vendor sale is on April 25, 8am-noon.

Current Account/Membership/Attendance Numbers:

	February	Total to Date 2020
Regular Membership		580
County Employees		38
Corporate		9
Insurance		228
Partnered Membership		103
Current Membership		958
Active Membership Summary		1660
Drop In Registrants	156	337
Check Ins	4805	9291
Group Exercise Attendance	824	1534
Child Watch	11	27
Pool Drop Ins (Including groups)		Closed

Special Events/Dates:

- March 9-13: Spring Break Camp at Rec Center
- April 25: Spring Parking Lot Treasure @ Rec. Center
- May 2: Iredell County Employee Furry 5k at the Rec Center/Greenway, 9am
- May 16: Woodmen of the World Community Project Day – at Rec Center
- May 23: Pool planned to open for the season
- May 30: Pickleball Tournament at the Rec Center
- June 6: Summer Reading Kickoff @ The Rec Center
- July 11: Triathlon @ the Rec Center

**Bigleaf Slopes Park:**

- No update

**Proposed Carolina Thread Trail – Bigleaf to Greenbriar:**

- No update

**Jennings Park:**

- **Outdoor Education Center and Ropes Course Site (at Jennings Park):**
  - Construction underway for picnic shelter structure. Project to be completed by April 15.
  - Working to finalize contract for Course Inspection in early March
  - Working on drainage issues at picnic area and zip-line dismount (due to severe rain)
  - Tree work (cutting) is complete, mulching to be done after drainage issue addressed and before programs in mid-April
  - Installing a 4x8 sign at Jennings with a rendering of park plans.
    - “Thermometer” on sign to track money raised for the park.
    - There is \$335,000 in remaining funds from PARTF grant.
  - Requested \$1.2 million in budget request to begin Phase I.
    - It was removed in the first round of cuts.
  - Will need community involvement and fundraising to get this park built.

- Kids in North Iredell travel 20 miles one-way to play ball in Statesville.

**Recreation Center and Administrative Offices:**

- Storage racks have been added to the newly created storage room.
- Rule signs for exercise areas and gymnasium are posted.
- Pool cover PO has been completed and will be ordered next week

**Scotts Rosenwald Park:**

- Completed playground inspection February 26, 2020.

**Stumpy Creek Park:**

- Overflow parking lot project back on priority list. Facility Services is working with Building Standards, as well as Planning Division to finalize site plan and initiate install. Proposed ½ acre gravel lot in the grassy area below the Taylor Field.
- ADA access was reviewed during the site assessment for the recreation master plan process.
- Assessing concerns expressed from a neighbor, regarding the catch basin below soccer fields on the north side of the park. Working to find funds to make repairs in this budget if possible.

**East Iredell Lions Club Community Park:**

- Contacted Energy United to replace old power poles and old security lights. Installation site has been selected, but poles have not been installed yet. – NO CHANGE

*County Athletic Playing Surfaces: Closed until Mid-February.*

Park Reservations for the month of:		February
Park	Amount of Reservations	Total Participation
<i>Bigleaf Slopes</i>	0	0
<i>East Iredell Lions Club Community Park</i>	0	0
<i>Jennings (fields only, w/o ropes course)</i>	0	0
<i>Rec Center Field</i>	0	0
<i>Rec Center Gymnasium</i>	6	132
<i>Scotts Rosenwald Community Building</i>	2	130
<i>Scotts Rosenwald (fields only)</i>	0	0
<i>Stumpy Creek (fields and picnic shelters)</i>	0	0
<b>January Totals</b>	17	389

**OLD BUSINESS**

- We are working to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with U.S. Veterans' Rowing & Kayaking Foundation.
- They have a place in Connecticut and would like to start a program in NC.
- This would not be a 40-hour a week program. Couple hours a day/week for 8 weeks
- They would do the training.
- Questions from the Board regarding this venture:
  - Can current staff handle it?



- Is there the Possibility of additional staff?
- Is there something we would have to give up in order to do this?
- Where to store the kayaks and canoes?
  - We currently have eight canoes at Stumpy and Facility Services on Twin Oaks.
  - We could store the vehicle at the Rec Center.
- What is the day-to-day operation?
- What do we need to do for you?
- If they fund this . . . who will fund the other parts?
- Can county use this equipment when not in use?
- Where would he use our water? Pool? Stumpy Creek?
- What would his time frame be at the Rec Center?
- When is the 8 weeks? Who sets the 8-week schedule?
- 8 weeks at Stumpy or at the Rec? Both?
- Do they need to be member to use Rec Center? Are they no charge at Rec Center?
- Certain number of “memberships”?
- He will give two Concept 2 rowers to Rec Center or two adaptable seats for Rec Center.
- Jen will be in charge of this program.

#### STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN

- Working on final stages of key issues matrix
- Priorities have been ranked by:
  - GreenPlay
  - Staff
  - Beth Jones
- Draft plan should be out in the next 2 weeks.
- Final copy goes to the Board of Commissioners for approval by April 21.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### BUDGET

- Michelle met with Joe and Caroline regarding budget was today.
- Given the directive to cut back part time salary.

##### CHILDREN’S HOPE ALLIANCE

- CHA has reached out to talk about an under-utilized baseball field on their campus.
- Potential field uses: Baseball, softball, soccer.
- They are interesting in a potential partnership with us.
- Parks and Rec could use the field after 5pm and on weekends (outside business operations of the campus).
- The County would get it to playable surface.
- CHA will mow it.
- Hope to have an MOA presented to BOC in the next couple of weeks.

##### OTHER FIELD INFORMATION

- Troutman has agreed to build baseball fields.
- Parks and Rec presented with an offer to expand the fields at the Rec Center.
- They build field and get first preference for use.
- This person lives and works in this community and runs an athletic league.
- Working to put together a formal proposal

## DISK GOLF

- Troutman Rotary Club is interested in building a disk golf course in/near Troutman.
- Started construction of one within the Town of Troutman.
- Project shut down due to lack of agreement.
- They approached CHA to build it on their campus however; it does not align with their mission and vision.
- CHA suggested they contact county
- We have disk golf at Stumpy Creek. We have and MOA WITH Statesvegas disk golf.
- We would need MOA.
- They would need to meet
  1. the county's insurance requirement
  2. get approval from the Board of Commissioners
  3. Go along with sponsorship package and guide lines

## POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIP

- Joint program with Sheriff and Parks and Rec department
  - Stacy Edwards Campbell contacted us about a partnership.
  - SRO helps determine the kids in the program.
  - They would do something every teacher workday and potentially spring break trip with kids.
- Sheriff's league volleyball
  - We have had a request from a coach to start using our gym.
  - That would be a free collaboration and a great way to leverage resources; however it limits gym availability to Rec members.

## FAIRGROUNDS

- Beth Jones announced at the Department Head meeting that the county is beginning master plan process for the fairground's property.
- Beth asked Lisa (from GreenPlay) if they would submit a bid to do the plan for fairgrounds.
- Concerts, festivals, greenways, trails – were the top items on the Parks and Rec master plan.
- Falls in line with Fairgrounds for event space.
- Money will be in FY21 for a site specific master plan for fairgrounds

## REC CENTER POWER BILL

- We have seen a change in the charges.
- New lights installed in gym in early November.
- Spent just under \$6000 for LED lights.
- Six months payout of lights.

No other new business.

*Barb Thorson made a motion to dismiss, seconded by Deb Tatu. Meeting adjourned at 8:05.*

**The next Recreation Advisory meeting will be on Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Parks and Recreation Conference Room in the Administrative Offices (located at 123 Grannis Lane).**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Stacy McGlamery*

Recreation Advisory Board Secretary