

ALAMANCE COUNTY  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 22nd 2016 MEETING  
ALTAMAHAW PADDLE ACCESS  
2296 NC HIGHWAY 87, ELON NC

Members Present (Underlined): Chairman Mr. Earl Jagers, Vice-Chair Lee Isley, Kelly Ronnow, Mr. John Paisley, Mr. Mark Payne, Commissioner Eddie Boswell, Mrs. Kelly May, Ms. Ann Meletzke

Recreation and Parks Staff Present: Brian Baker, Director; Jason Witherspoon, Northern Parks Manager

**I. COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order and a quorum established at 6:05 PM.

B. Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion of Eddie Boswell and the second of Lee Isley, the minutes of the February 16th, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was offered.

**III. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

None.

**IV. REPORT OF STAFF**

A. Monthly Departmental Report

Brian Baker reported on the Department's activities in February and March and detailed upcoming events including preparations for Youth Baseball; the completion of renovations at Eli Whitney, completion of Union Bridge Paddle Access; Cane Pole Fishing Hole Derby; Stargazing at SFNA; Special Olympics Spring Games; the Yee-Haw! River Paddle; and Foxfire beekeeping.

Jason Witherspoon provided an update on the activities of the Northern Parks Division.

**IV. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS**

A. Update on Cedarock Park Equestrian Center

Brian Baker reported that the Alamance County Board of Commissioners approved the expenditure of Performance Management funds for this project in the amount of \$100,000. Construction of the complex will begin in 2016 with the first phase of the project planned for completion in 2017.

B. Update on Alamance Wellness Collaborative Grant Application

Brian Baker reported that the Department was awarded \$25,000 in grant funds from Impact Alamance via the Alamance Wellness Collaborative Grant Process for the development of a trailhead and additional Haw River Trail near Valley Road in Graham. The acceptance of grant funds was approved by the Alamance County Board of Commissioners.

C. Discussion of NRPA “Three Pillars” Messaging Strategy

A brief follow up discussion was held regarding how best to utilize the National Recreation and Parks Association’s communication strategy focusing on wellness, conservation and social equity. No action was taken.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Alston Quarter Property –Discussion of March 21st Commissioner Presentation

The Commission discussed information presented by a member of the public at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board of Commissioners regarding the opportunity to acquire the Alston Quarter tract in southeastern Alamance County. Brian Baker detailed efforts being made by County staff members to determine options regarding the property. The Commission expressed a willingness to stay informed about the project, but no action was taken.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM via acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Baker