

ALAMANCE COUNTY  
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 MEETING  
ALAMANCE COUNTY ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM  
201 W. ELM STREET, GRAHAM NC 27253

MINUTES

Members Present (Underlined): Chairman Lee Isley, Vice-Chair Kelly May, Commissioner Pamela Thompson, Mr. Ryan Bowden, Mr. Earl Jagers, Ms. Ann Meletzke, Ms. Bhavna Hilligrass, Mr. David Woody

Alamance Parks Staff Present: Brian Baker, Director; Anna Bowland, Grants & Communications Coordinator

I. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established at 12:30pm
- B. Approval of the November 17, 2020 Minutes  
Upon a motion of Earl Jagers, and the second of Kelly May, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chuck Connelly and Jacob Wade were present to present a proposal to add a third permanent disc golf course at Cedarock Park.

III. REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

None

IV. REPORT OF STAFF

- A. Department Report  
Alamance Parks Director Brian Baker presented the monthly departmental report for January. He reported that attendance numbers at the parks are still higher than average but are returning to normal levels. Department programs are beginning to pick back up with a youth basketball training program currently in session. The Department will submit a proposal to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners to provide funding for a spring baseball pod/training program. Additionally, the Pleasant Grove Community Center reopened in February on a reservation-only basis.
- B. Staff Report  
Mr. Baker reported that Special Populations Coordinator, Emily Vermeer has left the department for private employment. Program Superintendent Jason Witherspoon is currently on assignment with the Alamance County Health Department assisting with COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

V. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

- A. Recreation and Parks Commission Membership  
Brian Baker updated the Commission that the Alamance County Board of Commissioners approved the recent request for changes to the Recreation and Parks Commission Membership structure. These changes include the addition of two citizen volunteers and the designation of members from the Alamance-Burlington School System and the Alamance County Board of Commissioners as ex-officio members. Ex-officio members will have voting rights on the Commission but will not be counted for the purposes of establishing a quorum. Additionally, under Article II, Section B, the verbiage of the quorum requirement will be changed to indicate that a quorum is at least 50% of serving members present.

With the changes in effect, the board now has two open seats for citizen volunteers. After discussion, the Commission agreed to re-submit Mr. Travis Sapp for consideration to the Alamance County Board of Commissioners. Brian Baker will reach out to the list of people who volunteered to serve on the board last fall and inform them of the current opening and invite them to the March Recreation and Parks Commission meeting.

- B. Park Sponsorship/Friends Group Discussion  
Brian Baker gave a presentation regarding the possible functions and next steps for establishing an Alamance Parks friends group. The board considered the questions of what is the goal for the type of group and how the group will be formed. No action was taken.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposal for Additional Disc Golf Course at Cedarock Park.  
Chuck Connelly and Jacob Wade, local disc golf community advocates, presented a proposal for a third disc golf course to be installed permanently at Cedarock Park. The addition of a third course would allow for more tournaments to be held at the park and would drive visitation and tourism to Alamance County. Mr. Connelly estimates that the cost of installing a third course would be \$20,000 of which his group of volunteers anticipate fundraising half (\$10,000). No official action was taken. The topic will be discussed at the March meeting.
- B. CVB Tourism Development Authority Grant Application  
Brian Baker requested the support of the Commission to apply for a \$5,000 marketing grant from the Tourism Development Authority. This grant will be used for promotion of the Haw River Trail and Alamance Parks sponsored events. Upon a motion of Kelly May and the second of Earl Jagers the Commission voted unanimously to approve the application for these grant funds.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 1:42 upon the motion of Earl Jagers and the second of David Woody.