

ALAMANCE COUNTY
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 MEETING
ALAMANCE PARKS GLENCOE OFFICE/GREAT BEND PARK
2320 RIVER ROAD, BURLINGTON, NC 27217

MINUTES

Members Present (Underlined): Chairman Lee Isley, Vice-Chair Kelly May, Commissioner Bill T. Lashley, Mr. Ryan Bowden, Ms. Ann Meletzke, Ms. Bhavna Hilligrass, Mr. David Woody, Ms. Kelly Ronnow, Mr. Mike Dunning, Ms. Lisa Wolff, Mr. Peter Dahl

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

Members of the Public Present: Dr. Harold Kernodle

I. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established at 6:02pm
- B. Approval of the April 19, 2022 Minutes
Upon a motion of Peter Dahl and the second of Lisa Wolff, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2022 meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

Chairman Lee Isley welcomed Dr. Harold Kernodle. Dr. Kernodle will be joining the Commission as of July 1, 2022. He is a volunteer trail builder in Alamance County.

IV. REPORT OF STAFF

Department Report

Director Brian Baker reported that park and program attendance has been steady throughout the spring. Baseball season concluded last week and football signups have begun. The Department is hosting its first horse camp this week at the Cedarock Equestrian Center. New flooring is being installed at the Eli Whitney Community Center this month which will equip the center to serve as a hub for basketball, pickleball, archery, and more for years to come.

Commission Member Update

Brian Baker reported that the Alamance County Board of Commissioners appointed three new members to serve on the Recreation and Parks Commission. They are: Harold Kernodle, Joseph McHugh, and Thomas Purcell. The new members are active as of July 1, 2022. Outgoing members are Kelly May, Ann Meletzke, and Bhavna Hilligrass.

Budget Update

The Alamance County Board of Commissioners approved the 2022-23 fiscal year budget at the June 20 meeting. The budget provides for an additional Park Technician Position (as of September 1, 2022) as well as raises for all county employees. The Department is now fully staffed and the raises will help the Department hire and retain employees.

V. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

Land Acquisition along the Haw River Trail

Brian Baker provided an update on the progress of land acquisitions along the Haw River Trail. An easement has been secured from Gravity Renewables on a section of land in Saxapahaw near the dam. This easement will allow for a portage around the dam as well as an extension of the hiking trail. Additionally, trail easements have been secured in the Northern Alamance section on Glen Raven property and on Leath Road. Trails and Open Spaces Coordinator, Nolan Carter, continues to work with landowners to secure easements.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Isley adjourned the meeting by expressing appreciation to each of the outgoing commission members for their service to the board. Additionally, he thanked Kelly May for her many years of service to the Recreation and Parks Commission. Kelly has been instrumental in driving new initiatives and fostering community support for the Department.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52pm upon the motion of Peter Dahl and second of Ryan Bowden.

Respectfully Submitted, Brian Baker