ALAMANCE COUNTY

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022 MEETING ALAMANCE PARKS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE – CEDAROCK PARK 3916 R. DEAN COLEMAN ROAD, BURLINGTON, NC 27215

MINUTES

Members Present: (Underlined) Chairman Lee Isley, <u>Vice-Chairman Mr. Peter Dahl</u>, <u>Commissioner Bill T. Lashley</u>, Mr. Ryan Bowden, <u>Mr. David Woody</u>, Ms. Kelly Ronnow, <u>Mr. Mike Dunning</u>, Ms. Lisa Wolff, Dr. Harold Kernodle, <u>Mr. Thomas Purcell</u>, <u>Mr. Craig Yokeley</u>

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 6:09pm
- B. <u>Approval of the August 16, 2022 Minutes</u>
 Upon a motion of David Woody and the second of Bill Lashley the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2022 meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. REPORT OF CHAIRMAN

Vice-Chairman Peter Dahl welcomed new member, Craig Yokeley, to the Commission.

IV. REPORT OF STAFF

A. Department Report

Director Brian Baker reported that September is typically the busiest month of the year for the Department. September events held at the parks included the ALCOVETS Balloon Festival, Farm-to-Table, and the Sneeky Pete Disc Golf Tournament. On October 28, Cedarock Park will officially transition to a new campsite location and trail reroutes will be in effect. The Department is preparing to begin working on facilities projects in the winter and early spring months.

B. Haw River Trail Updates

Brian provided an update on a new trail easement in Northern Alamance near The Valley golf course. The Department continues to pursue trail easements and oversee the development of new trail along the river.

V. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

A. <u>Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area – Observation Tower</u>

Updates were given on the progress of the Cane Creek Mountains Natural Area Phase 2 Development. Brian reported that a contract has been signed for the construction of the Observation Tower. Peter Dahl reported that the volunteer trail builders are almost complete with the Pioneer Camp Trail. A soft opening for Phase 2 of the park is planned for Spring 2023 which will give the public access to the new trail.

VI. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

A. <u>Cedarock Park Master Plan</u>

Brian Baker presented the Cedarock Master Plan draft. This document draws from the Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Master Plan, Alamance County Trails Plan, and public and advisory feedback to compose a plan for Cedarock Park through 2025. The Commission is invited to review the plan and provide feedback.

B. Staffing Update

Brian Baker announced that he will be leaving the role as Parks Director and has accepted a position as Assistant County Manager for Alamance County. The Recreation and Parks Director position will be posted on October 19 and is open to internal and external candidates.

Peter Dahl thanked Brian for his 15 years of service to the Department through the Haw River Trail Coordinator and Director roles. The Commission is grateful for his leadership.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm upon the motion of Billy Lashley and second of Dave Woody.

Respectfully Submitted, Anna Bowland