

**Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
February, 2008**

Attendees: Kim Bogert, Becky Geiger, Emily Jaeckli, Jim Arnold, Charles Miles

Additional Attendees: Charlie Funderburk (City Staff), Councilmember Larry Harper, Joey Blethen (City Staff), Mayor Bob Runde, Karen Bair (The Herald)

Meeting Minutes

1. Recreation Update – Joey Blethen
 - a. Spring registration
 - i. On-line software is working great – registration ends 2/16
 - ii. 13 and over numbers are down due to GHMS starting spring soccer and baseball programs
 - iii. Sponsorships – 30 teams have sponsors, need about 10 more
 - iv. Kim asked that Joey attend our next meeting and present a breakdown of this year's numbers, and projections for the next few years
2. Review of Minutes – January meeting minutes approved as corrected.
3. February Events – Becky Geiger
 - a. Valentine's Day Craft scheduled for Sun 2/10 at 3:30 at City Hall
 - b. Girl Scouts will be volunteering to help set up, guide the kids and clean up
 - c. Would like each P & R member to bring 2 dozen cookies
4. Concert update – Kim Bogert
 - a. Schedule set
 - i. Fantastic Shakers 5/10
 - ii. Missbehavin' 6/14
 - iii. Charity Case 8/2
 - iv. Joystick 9/20
 - b. Flyer – Emily to coordinate flyer; needs to be mailed the last week of March
 - c. Vendors – need to be set by March 15th, for inclusion in the flyer
 - i. All previous vendors are on board (except for Village Pizza, who has not yet responded), and are okay with switching to cash
 - ii. Per Mayor Runde, there is no longer any implied exclusives for vendors – concerts are now open to others
5. End of School Party – Kim Bogert
 - a. May 31st at Runde, 5-7
 - b. Kids DJ – **Kim to contact**
 - c. PlayBall & Air Castles – **Emily to contact**
 - i. **UPDATE: Playball is set, but will need a volunteer**
 - d. Vendors – Sonic and Brusters – **Becky to contact**
6. This Year's Theme (Environmentalism) – Kim Bogert
 - a. Website – can list environmental tips on site; **Becky to coordinate with Mom's club member who already does this**
 - b. Tim Gillette – possible nature walks with Tim Gillette at Linerieux Park in the spring and fall
 - c. April 19th is Spring Clean Up

- d. Earth Fair – April 26th (probably at Turner)
 - i. Possible participants
 - 1. Duke – energy conservation
 - 2. RiverKeepers
 - 3. Clemson Agricultural Extension
 - 4. Nature Museum
 - 5. Ft. Mill Ford – electric and hybrid cars
 - 6. Signature Waste – recycling
 - 7. company for rain barrels & composting – **Emily to research**
 - 8. local and/or organic farms – **Emily to research**
 - 9. Catawba Thread Trail
 - 10. Springs/Nations Ford Land Trust
 - ii. Possible activities
 - 1. Educational programs for kids
 - a. How one product gets recycled into another
 - b. How food gets from the farm to the table
 - 2. Kids crafts using recycled materials
7. Master Plan Review – Charlie Funderburk
- a. Need to update, edit and augment before presenting to Council in January of 2009
 - b. Will be tackling sections over the next 10 months and will be discussing parts each month
 - c. Jim Arnold to take the lead – needs Council input, census data and survey results – and will put together a plan for the project
 - d. March 4th – Thread trail meeting at 6:30 at the York County Complex
8. Director's Update – Charlie Funderburk
- a. Dog Park Update – Grant will take a proposal to Council on February 18th to possibly move the Dog Park to the 10 acres of Catawba Park
 - b. Gardendale
 - i. Walking trails will go in at the same time as the streets – the developer will install low-lying lights on the parts of the trail that are shaded and dark
 - ii. Pocket parks – Charlie will walk through to plot parks with the developer, who is donating \$50,000 worth of equipment for the parks, which they will purchase and install directly
9. New Business / Adjourn
- a. Charlotte has resigned and we will need a replacement
 - b. Catawba Park – Mayor Bob Runde
 - i. There was a special Council meeting on Tuesday, January 29th to discuss finishing half of the basement of the community center
 - 1. Drake Capital has agreed to redirect a portion (\$320K) of the Catawba Park funds towards this
 - 2. The money – which was supposed to be used to build new ball fields at the park – will be replaced, but Council is unable to set a timetable
 - c. Sports Complex – May Bob Runde
 - i. EquityOne Sports is proposing to build a sports complex at Catawba Park
 - 1. They would build all fields (with artificial turf), parking lots, walking trails, buildings (including a gym to house a basketball court, indoor soccer fields, climbing wall, batting tunnels, childcare, fitness center, meeting and party rooms, on-site sports medical facility and café with staff offices)

2. EquityOne would essentially "own" the facility, and the City would get the right of first refusal for the ball fields. The City would lease the fields from EquityOne, but whenever they are not in use by the City, EquityOne is free to rent them out to other teams, cities, or tournaments.
 3. More land need
 - a. The project requires at least 100+ acres, so in addition to the planned 10 acres of active use of the Catawba Park, we would also need to partner with Clear Springs/ Baxter to incorporate their 30+ acres into the complex
- ii. Pros
1. The facility could break ground by summer, with the ball fields completed ahead of the previous schedule
 2. Would eliminate the immediate need to repay the recreation fund for the money borrowed for the community center basement (partial) completion
- iii. Cons
1. Indoor facility would compete directly with the YMCA, which has a very successful basketball program already established, as well as a state-of-the-art fitness facility
 2. Tega Cay would not "own" the park, and unless scheduled, would not have free run of the fields. Could pose a problem for residents of Tega Cay wanting to use the fields and finding that they've been rented to others

Next meeting is **Wednesday, March 5th** at 6:30 pm at the City Administration Building.