



Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes September 29th, 2020

Call to order

The recent Park Advisory Board Meeting was held at the Belle Johnston Community Center on September 29th, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Clay Perry and seconded by Stacy Shatterly.

Attendees

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| Kristy Detwiler (staff) | Stacy Shatterly |
| Erin Hamilton (staff) | Yvette Isaacs |
| Jordan Williams (staff) | Lorraine Haynes |
| Clay Perry (chair) | Tristan McMannis |
| Sue Bankston | Milady Meadows (non-board member) |
| Barbara Manning (by phone) | |

Approval of minutes

Lorraine Haynes made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21st, 2020 meeting. Motion approved and seconded by Sue Bankston, ayes by all.

Staff Updates – Kristy Detwiler, Parks and Recreation Director gave an update on the following:

- Milady Meadows introduced herself as the Southern Towns Representative for the Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Board. We welcomed her to the meeting.
- **Covid-19 Update:** We allow up to 2 people in the workout room. The basketball court is not open because it's a contact sport. We had our first class since closing. It was a decorating cookie class. All 10 spaces were filled. Everyone wore masks for the entirety of the class. Pickleball started back on Mondays and Fridays. Classes are gradually starting back up with everyone signing COVID-19 waivers and temperature checks. Yoga started back in person at the hut on Mondays and Thursdays.
- **LWCF Grant Update:** Kristy turned the grant in during last week of July. Kristy got a call from a LWCF Grant inspector that wanted to come and do a pre-grant inspection. It doesn't mean we are getting the grant but it looks promising. Hopefully they will announce the winners in October/early November.
- **South Charlotte Best Park:** The South Charlotte Weekly does a best of section in their newspapers. Lake Park earned Best Park in south charlotte. We take great pride in this award.
- **reCREATE Grab N Go Kits:** We started making these Grab N Go kits in late August. The parents drive up and we hand them the box/bag through the window. We are always wearing masks. We wanted the kids to have something fun to do since they weren't able to be in school. We have done 5-6 boxes since end of August. We prepare 50 kits and so far we have given them all away. We post all of it on

social media and people are posting their crafts on our pages. We are going to continue these through December. The kids and parents both love it!!

- **Farmers Market:** We extended the farmer's market past Labor Day because many vendors wanted to continue a few more weeks. The produce came in late from the summer rain we had. The last Saturday was 9/26. It was difficult to find vendors this year.
- **Splash Pad:** The new features and shade structures were installed over the summer. We never opened because of COVID-19.
- **Summer Camp Summary:** We made it 8 weeks COVID-19 free, WOOHOO. We had 45-50 kids each week and we kept them separated in 5 groups. Each group never had more than 10 kids. We bought a backpack disinfectant sprayer which was great for disinfecting. It made it a lot easier to disinfect larger areas in quicker times.
- **BJCC New Floors:** They started on the new floors at the Belle Johnston Community Center on 9/28. They are in the process now and it should take about 2 weeks. They are taking up all the tile and replacing with a vinyl flooring that looks like hardwood. It will cover the dining room, craft room, lobby, hall, and offices.
- **Budget Items:** Kristy purchased a new stove for the BJCC and should be installed in next two weeks. The painting for outside of BJCC has been approved but the quotes from companies aren't getting back to her. We received the Mini Bus and the logos should be coming in the coming weeks.
- **Events Update:**
 - o We held a special Family Game Night on September 11th. We had drive in bingo which was a big hit. We had 21 cars sign up and 19 were in attendance. Everyone had a great time. We had different music categories for each round.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - o Family Game Night: Drive in Bingo on 10/2
 - o Halloween on October 30th. We are partnering with Pineville Church to have a drive in movie experience in their church parking lot. We will show Charlie Brown Halloween and then Hocus Pocus. We will also give out treat bags.
- **PCAA/Jack Hughes Update:** PCAA was able to have a fall season with all the COVID-19 guidelines. They are in the middle of that season now. All outside teams are required to sign COVID-19 waivers and obey the guidelines. We have not started tournaments yet at Jack Hughes due to COVID-19.

Advisory Board Discussion

- Stacy says the new playground equipment is popular. Someone is always on the zip line out.
- Kristy mentioned that Lake Park now has a mile marker and it is behind the zip line. It shows the mileage of one lap around the lake, .6 mile. We got a new dog park sponsor sign. We ordered new park rules signs for Jack Hughes and they should be here in a few weeks.
- The new director interviews are in process. They hope the new person will be in place November 1st to get overlap time with Kristy.
- Yvette asked about our annual Christmas event. We haven't planned anything yet because our normal event normally has 200 people and without knowing the governors order, it's hard to plan for it. How would they sit on Santa's lap safely? How do the kids stand in line and wait for Santa? Lorraine suggested having a drive through and everyone stays in cars. Kids could write a letter to Santa and put it in a box. Tristan suggested having a drive through tree lighting and seeing Santa in the parking lot across from fire department where it is usually held. We don't know if that lot will be allowed because it's under contract again. We could maybe use Jack Hughes because it's easy to loop around

and we could maybe have police help with traffic. If there's a line waiting, maybe have carolers. Stacy suggested having the fire truck ride Santa around a different day than Christmas Eve.

- Sue asked Lorraine how her classes are going. They have been going on through zoom since summer. Lorraine has 20 people on zoom. She is going to start holding stretch class only in person. Only 4 seniors are comfortable with it. She can't teach certain classes with a mask on so zoom for now. They will need to sign waivers and their temperatures will be taken. Lorraine did a survey on who would be willing to come back in person and most are not comfortable with the risk of coming back in person. She realistically doesn't see in person classes returning until next year.
- Stacy asked if there are any hand sanitizers down by the playgrounds. We have been checking to see if any other departments sanitize the playgrounds. It was found more harmful to sanitize the playgrounds because it gets on the kids hands and then they put their hands in their mouth. We have signs that say play at your own risk. Other places have tried to put hand stations up and they get vandalized or stolen.
- Tristan commends Kristy and staff for programing ideas. Many board members complement as well. Barbara commended the summer camp team on the success we had.

Adjourn – Lorraine made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Clay seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.