

Waynesville Parks and Recreation  
Department  
550 Vance Street  
Waynesville, NC 28786



Phone: 828.456.2030  
Fax: 828.456.2034  
Website: waynesvillenc.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**"Nationally Accredited"**

## **ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING**

**May 20, 2024  
5:30 PM**

---

### **MINUTES**

In attendance were Eva Hansen, Mandy Giust, Megan Hauser, Chad Carver, Landen Stevenson, Mark Tongen

Absent: Jon Sears, David Hyder, Nate Webster, Trey Peterson

Luke Kinsland, Director, staffed the meeting.

Call to Order: Eva called the meeting to order at 5:41pm

Chair Eva Hansen opened the May meeting and welcomed those in attendance. Luke reported Trey Preston has been appointed to the commission and is interested in supporting and growing the tennis program. Eva recommended an orientation for new commission members be scheduled and will follow up with Luke and new members.

Minutes: Megan motioned to approve the April minutes and Mark seconded. The April minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Old Business:

- East Street Park neighborhood meeting went well resulting in support and volunteer interest. The large tree that fell across the creek has been mostly removed. Luke, Landen, and Eva attended the meeting and shared details of the plans for park improvements. Mandy may have a contact that could remove the remaining tree debris.
- Sulphur Springs Park improvements are almost complete, and Haywood Waterways is finishing their work as well at that site.
- Haywood Healthcare Foundation grant was submitted for \$160,000 for replacing the cardio equipment at the Rec Center.
- TDA Grant was not submitted.
- Commemorative Brick Walkway Fundraiser: Pave the Way for Kids to Play is a joint project between Parks and Kiwanis. All the information has been successfully submitted to Bricks-r-Us and the QR Code tested. Soon the fundraiser will be launched, and revenues will be shared between the two organizations.

### Past & Upcoming Special Events:

- Spring Fling was successfully held on 5/11. There were fewer children and families in attendance, however there were some who had never been to the Rec Center previously. It will probably be held later in May or early June in 2025.
- The Skate Competition was postponed to June 8<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather.
- Summer Camp registration is occurring and will begin in June.
- Soccer is going well, and Parks will explore the possibility of having some food trucks to generate additional revenue.

### County Funding:

This has been an off and on discussion with the Parks Commission the past few years with a position paper written in 2022 by a former member. It will be included in the future fund development plan.

### 25<sup>th</sup> Rec Center Anniversary 12/25 & Fund-Raising Opportunity:

Mandy has volunteered to be the lead facilitator of this effort and provided a To-Do List Outline to the group. She facilitated discussion with the following results:

- The theme of the event will be 25th Anniversary and our preliminary Fundraising Goal is \$25,000.
- There will be two main events: 5k & Disc Golf Tournament. The date of the events will be 9/13/25 or 9/20/25 (We need to determine by June meeting).
- The 5k will be early in the morning. The board reviewed the quote from Kick It Events and agreed to use them to assist with planning and organizing events. More information will come once the date is finalized. The proposed price to participate is \$35 with a goal of 200 participants.

### Spring/Summer Recreation Sports New Opportunities:

Landen and Nate requested this agenda item. The following were suggested ideas to discuss Volleyball Camp, Basketball Camp, Softball, Wrestling Tournament, Soccer Tournaments, Judo Camp.

This was deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

### New Business/Director's Report:

- FY25 Budget Projections: Luke gave an abbreviated report due to time. The very limited budget projected for the Parks & Rec next fiscal year is going to be a challenge to maintain current programs, services, and maintenance. There will be funding for cost of living raises and for town staff and possibly some merit raises.
- Staffing Status: Two staff have submitted resignation effective August therefore Currently recruiting for those positions, the Program Supervisor and Program Specialist position. They are needed for the Afterschool Program especially. Lifeguard positions are also being advertised.
- Other: Mark reported the Asheville Roller Hockey is looking for covered space to use and he believes participants would drive to Haywood County. Teams pay \$150 each and there are currently 18 teams. It was suggested the open gym at Lake Junaluska may be an option.

Other Business/Chair's Comments:

- Mark reported the Asheville Roller Hockey is looking for covered space to use and he believes participants would drive to Haywood County. Teams pay \$150 each and there are currently 18 teams. It was suggested the open gym at Lake Junaluska may be an option.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm

Chair's signature: *Eva Hansen*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Eva Hansen, Chairman