Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture
(PARC) Commission
August 1, 2019
5:30 PM

Cornelius Town Hall
www.cornelius.org/parc

AGENDA

PARC COMMISSION - 5:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   - A. **July 2019 Draft Minutes**
4. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES - CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS**
5. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
   - A. **July 2019 Director's Report**
6. **PARC COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
   - A. **Cain Center for the Arts**
   - B. **PARC Commission Goals & Committees**
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
   - A. **AED Donation from Operation Sweet Tooth**
   - B. **County Sales Tax Referendum**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**
10. **NEXT MEETING**

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: August 1, 2019

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
2019.7.11.Minutes.pdf	July 2019 Draft Minutes	Backup Material

Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Commission
Thursday, July 11, 2019
5:30 – 7:00 pm

Cornelius Town Hall
21445 Catawba Avenue
Cornelius, NC 28031
www.cornelius.org/parc

MINUTES

1) **Call to Order** – Chair Higgins called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

2) **Determination of Quorum** – A quorum was reached with seven commissioners in attendance.
Commissioners present: Rob McCloskey, Trey Fouche, Carol Livingston, Chris Kolkhorst, Andrew Heywood, Dave Rusk, Chair Scott Higgins, and Town Commissioner Denis Bilodeau
Commissioners absent: Meghan Stamper and Travis Dancy
Staff present: Director Troy Fitzsimmons and Karen Ulmer

3) **Approval of Minutes (May)** – Commissioner Rusk made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 2, 2019, meeting as presented. Commissioner Fouche seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4) **Public Appearances – Citizen Concerns/Comments** – None

5) **Presentations**
   a) Google Local Guides Program – Rob McCloskey
   Commissioner McCloskey said the Public Awareness committee has been working on how to leverage Google to PARC's benefit, concentrating on asset awareness. He gave a presentation [see attached] explaining their efforts. He also handed out a "How To" document [see attached] outlining the steps people can take to help identify PARC assets to Google so that residents and visitors can find them. He asked that the PARC Commissioners start submitting missing locations and adding images to existing locations.

6) **Director's Report** – Director Fitzsimmons gave a presentation [see attached] highlighting items from his June report.

7) **PARC Commissioner Recommendations & Reports**
   a) Items to be placed on record – None
   b) Commissioner Reports
      1) Commissioner Rob McCloskey – No report
      2) Commissioner Trey Fouche – He commended the staff on Symphony in the Park. He and his family enjoyed it, the lines were not too long, the church group in the kids' area was friendly, traffic was not bad, heard zero complaints. People are very aware of the coming Antiquity Greenway and are looking forward to it.
      3) Commissioner Meghan Stamper – Absent
      4) Commissioner Carol Livingston – No report
      5) Commissioner Chris Kolkhorst – He shared an article from NCRPA's "Recre8" summer issue [see attached] regarding the collaboration between PARC and Lake Norman Wildlife Conservationists.
      6) Commissioner Andrew Heywood – He attended the Cornelius Jazz Festival and Symphony in the Park. The symphony event was a highlight, most proud moment, everything was so well done, and VIP parking was great. He still would like to find ways to appeal to young adults without kids. He asked about the LKN Bike Expo and community ride that were cancelled back in May. Director Fitzsimmons said they would be rescheduled as a tie-in with the Antiquity Greenway opening

DRAFT

7) Commissioner Dave Rusk – He attended the Memorial Day event; it was very moving.
8) Commissioner Travis Dancy – Absent

c) Chair Scott Higgins –In May, he participated with the Bike to School Day and attended the Memorial Day event. On June 1, he attended the *Beyond Walls* reception with Marisa Pascucci; though the event was not well attended, Marisa does an amazing job and the artwork is great. He gave welcoming comments at Symphony in the Park and reported that Will Keible, Director of Marketing and Corporate Support for WDAV, said they were bombarded with positive feedback the event. He has attended several Antiquity Greenway meetings, was involved with the mayor putting the last tread on the bridge, and has enjoyed watching it transition from a swamp to a beautiful greenway. He was contacted by Allen Tate Realty in Davidson to participate in a video to talk about the Cornelius greenways. They have finished one and two or three more videos are planned. He shared that the *Herald Citizen* featured our Emerald Necklace and, in the same issue, they ran an article about Huntersville trying to come up with a catchy name for their greenway system. Cornelius is way ahead of the other northern towns on greenways.

d) Town Commissioner Report – Commissioner Denis Bilodeau – Mecklenburg County will have a quarter of a penny tax increase on is next ballot. 45% of the money, or $22.5 million, would go to the Arts and Science Council; 30%, or $17 million, would go to County parks and greenways; 18%, or $8 million, to education; and $2.5 million to arts and culture projects and parks in the county's small towns, of which $598,000 is estimated for Cornelius. He urged the PARC Commissioners to study and consider the merits of the proposed increase.

8) Old Business

a) Lake Cornelius Update
Director Fitzsimmons said the project continues to progress, with discussions focusing on locating the access on YMCA property. Town staff have met with the Lake Norman YMCA's Executive Director, Matt Fitzwater. The Y's Director of Risk is on board but still checking with their insurance carrier. They will meet again on July 30.

b) Bailey Road Park Tennis/Pickleball Complex Update
Director Fitzsimmons gave a presentation [see attached] regarding the new tennis and pickleball complex proposed by the developer of Bailey's Glen. The FY20 budget has set aside $1 million towards the project, if the Town can get someone to purchase naming rights and sell a ground lease for a restaurant in the park. The master plan for Bailey Road Park will have to be revised in order to move forward, so there would be a public workshop as part of that process.

c) Robbins Park Master Plan Update
Director Fitzsimmons gave a presentation [see attached] with an update regarding the latest proposal of the Robbins Park Master Plan. The next public workshop is Tuesday, August 6, 6:30-8:00 pm at Town Hall. There will also be a second survey, available online July 22-August 22.

d) Cain Center for the Arts
Town Commissioner Bilodeau said they have had productive meetings with some high dollar donors and the fundraising goal is within reach.

e) Northern Regional Recreation Center
Director Fitzsimmons said the County reports they are still on schedule and plan to break ground this fiscal year.

f) PARC Commission Goals & Committees
Chair Higgins said the Strategic Planning and Long Term Finance committee met this afternoon and started to look at projects for FY20 and CIP planning for FY21.

9) New Business – None

10) Adjournment – Chair Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Next Meetings – Thursday, August 1, 2019
Future Dates – Thursday, September 5, 2019; Thursday, October 3, 2019; Thursday, November 7, 2019

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

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Date of Meeting: August 1, 2019

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
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2019.6.29.July_Director_Report.pdf	July 2019 Director's Report	Backup Material

PARC Director's Report
July 2019

PROGRAMMING

Recreation Centers

- Completed Weeks 4-6 of Summer Day Camps registration continues with 193 participants (262 last year).
- Cardio Funk at Bailey Road Recreation Center had 170 participants in June. (263 in 2018)
- Lake Norman Bridge had 644 participants in June. (802 in 2018)

Arts Center

- Completed Weeks 4-6 of Summer Arts & Recreation Camps registration with 262 participants and 39 on waiting lists, with 2 camps cancelled. (253 last year, with 54 on waiting lists and 3 camps cancelled).
- Summer A adult classes finished on July 11. Adult classes: 8 of 9 classes made, with 66 total registrants and 5 on waiting lists, with no workshops offered (last year 7 of 9 adult classes made, with 57 total registrants and 7 on waiting lists. Adult workshops: 2 of 5 made, with 12 total registrants). Summer B adult classes began the week of July 22. Fall A registration will begin on August 12.
- Began collecting artworks from summer campers for the *Home Grown: Sprout*s exhibition, July 8 through August 24. A closing reception will be held on Thursday, August 22 from 5:00-7:00 pm.
- Planning for the next *Mud at the Mill*, a juried ceramics exhibition, September 20 through November 2. An opening reception will be held on Friday, September 20.
- Planning for Art in the Park on Wednesday, October 9, 1:00-3:00 pm at Robbins Park.

Athletics

- Completed Weeks 4-6 of Summer Sports Camps registration with 718 participants and 7 on waiting lists (643 last year and 14 on waiting lists).
- Registration for NFL Youth Flag Football began July 1.
- Registration for the fall season of Adult Softball began July 15 for returning teams and July 22 for new teams.
- Lake Norman Little League (LKN LL) All-Star tournaments and practices continued. One 12-year-old team advanced to the semifinal round of the Little League Baseball State Championship tournament.
- Managed 890 total hours of facility use in June (822 hours in 2018).
- Upcoming events: 2019 Gaga Ball tournament on Saturday, August 10, 9:00 am-12:00 pm at Robbins Park.

Special Events

- Held Park in the Dark on July 19 at Robbins Park with 35 participants. (19 in 2018)
- Held the Outdoor Cinema Series: *How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World* on July 27 at Ramsey Creek Park with approximately 250 attendees and 9 boats (approximately 150 people and 4 boats in 2018).
- Upcoming 2019 Cornelius Outdoor Cinema Series: Family activities start at 6:30 pm and the movies around 8:30 pm: *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* on Saturday, August 24, at Robbins Park; and *Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation* on Saturday, September 21, at Smithville Park.
- Upcoming events: National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 6:00-8:00 pm at Bailey Road Park; Back-2-School Bash & Movie Night on Saturday, August 24, 6:30-10:30 pm at Robbins Park; 'Tawba Walk on Saturday, September 28, 2:00-8:00 pm in Downtown Cornelius; All American Dog Show on Saturday, October 5, 3:00-6:00 pm at Robbins Park; and Laketoberfest on Saturday, October 12, 5:00-9:00 pm at Bailey Road Park.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Under Design

- **Smithville-to-JV Washam Greenway** – Staff and consultant are in the process of securing right-of-way authorization from NCDOT.
- **Robbins Park Master Plan** – Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation's Natural Resource Division completed an initial biodiversity assessment to determine important environmental areas. Consultant has a new draft of the master plan update, based on the Parks and Greenways Master Plan, a public workshop and survey responses. The updated draft plan will be presented at a second public workshop at Town Hall on Tuesday, August 6, 6:30-8:00 pm. The plan and a new, brief survey are posted online for additional input opportunities.
- **Bailey Road Park Master Plan** – The proposed conceptual plan includes 12 lighted tennis courts, 4 POP tennis courts, 10 pickleball courts, restaurant, restroom building, viewing area, and additional parking. A public workshop will be held at Town Hall on Wednesday, August 21, 6:30-8:00 pm. An online survey is posted on the Town website for additional input opportunities.

Out to Bid

- **Plum Creek (South Bailey Road) Greenway** – Bids were opened by the County on July 18. Five bidders participated and the contract was awarded to JD Goodrum. The construction is scheduled to start in the fall.
- **McDowell Creek Greenway** – Notice to Bid is planned for late summer and a construction to start in spring 2020.

Under Construction

- **Antiquity (South Rocky River) Greenway** – The project is 85% complete. The boardwalk installation is nearing completion. A soils issue at a low water crossing has been resolved. The estimated completion is September, weather permitting.
- **JV Washam Gym Divider Curtain** – The Maintenance Team (TMT) is scheduled to install the curtain beginning August 12.

OPERATIONS

- **Natural Turf Athletic Fields** – Completed deep core aeration and top dressing on all fields. The fertilization and herbicide programs are in full swing. All fields except those needed for summer camps are closed to allow the turf to recuperate.
- **Irrigation** – Repairs and adjustments are in process at WAC and Smithville Park.

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