Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture
(PARC) Commission
March 10, 2020
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. **February 2020 Draft Minutes**
4. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES - CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS**
5. **PRESENTATIONS**
   - A. **Cain Center for the Arts Programming**
6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
   - A. **February 2020 Director's Report**
7. **PARC COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
   - A. **PARC Commission Goals & Committees**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**
11. **NEXT MEETING**

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2020

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
2020.2.13.Minutes.pdf	February 2020 Draft Minutes	Backup Material

Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Commission
Thursday, February 13, 2020
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 5:30 pm.

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

3) **Approval of Minutes (January)** – Commissioner Livingston made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 9, 2020, meeting as written. Commissioner Dancy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

5) **Presentations** – None

6) **Director's Report**
Director Fitzsimmons shared a presentation [see attachment] highlighting items from his January report [see attached], including a review of PARC's FY21 budget requests. He also shared the newest version of the PARC infographic [see attached], updated with FY19 numbers. Chair Higgins asked about any significant changes to the 2020 summer camp program. Superintendent Cauble said day camps will feature an earlier drop-off time, new field trip destinations, more STEAM activities, special guests, and changes to the swim component. Arts and recreation camps have added photography, Bach to Rock music, and several yoga camps. Sports camps have added Stretch-N-Grow for 4-to 6-year-olds.

7) **PARC Commissioner Recommendations & Reports**
   a) Items to be placed on record
   b) Commissioner Reports
      1) Commissioner Rob McCloskey – No report
      2) Commissioner Trey Fouche – He attended the Public Arts Committee selection meeting for the 2020-2021 *Beyond Walls* exhibition. The committee selected seven pieces with two alternates and he has since found out they are planning to go with all nine. Most are new artists.
      3) Commissioner Meghan Stamper – Her son attended the Xtreme Lacrosse free clinic this past weekend. She has seen some conversation on NextDoor regarding PARC use of the Alexander Farm property.
      4) Commissioner Carol Livingston – She attended a portion of the Town's budget planning session and found it very informative She attended the Sponsor Appreciation Reception and found the sponsors she talked to were very excited; some even told her their business had increased as a result of their affiliation with PARC events.
      5) Commissioner Chris Kolkhorst – He also attended the Sponsor Appreciation Reception and thought it was very well planned and attended. He said that forming relationships with the sponsors is helpful.
      6) Commissioner Andrew Heywood – Absent

DRAFT

7) Commissioner Dave Rusk – No report, but he asked about any fallout from the changes to the ceramics program at the Cornelius Arts Center. Director Fitzsimmons said the main complaints have been from the production artists, from whom it was expected. However, the Winter Session and the Spring A Session both sold out and more Cornelius residents have been able to enroll.
8) Commissioner Travis Dancy – No report
9) Chair Scott Higgins – He attends the Pre-Development Committee meetings and has been pushing for PARC use with each Alexander Farm development proposal submitted. He gave the welcome at the Cornelius Arts Center's *Home Grown* opening reception and took the opportunity to meet some of the center's potters to discuss changes. He has been pushing to promote biking to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), on behalf of the north county town alliance, Street Access for Everyone (SAFE), and got their mission statement and by-laws changed to reflect the NC state definition for transportation to include "bicycles". He is also working with Planning Director Aaron Tucker on revising the bike plan. He attended the Town's budget planning session, as well as Mecklenburg County's budget workshop this past Saturday at Town Hall. He was able to talk to County Manager Dena Diorio about having the county partner with us on the Smithville-to-JV Washam Linear Park; she expressed interest in doing so. He attended public safety committee meetings for both police and fire, as well as the Sponsor Appreciation Reception.

c) Town Commissioner Report – Commissioner Jim Duke – He has been speaking to Town Manager Andrew Grant and pushing hard for PARC's requests for the full $300,000 for maintenance needs and for the additional park maintenance personnel – if we build it we need to maintain it.

8) Old Business

a) Cain Center for the Arts
Town Commissioner Duke said the Town Commissioners had received Commissioner McCloskey and Fouche's letter regarding the transition of arts programming from PARC to the Cain Center and he thought it made them aware that there are some potential issues. He has encouraged the Town Board to consult with the PARC Commission. Commissioner McCloskey said we all agree the Cain Center is a very good product but their concern is regarding the transition of existing successful PARC programs to the new center: What are the steps? What programs are going to continue? What impact can we have? Commissioner Fouche said he is not against the Cain Center, is very much for it, but his concern is that it be a transparent process. Director Fitzsimmons said staff have been working on plans to provide information in support of a transition. He wants PARC staff and the PARC Commission to know the plan before it goes public. An announcement may be coming very shortly.

b) PARC Commission Goals & Committees
- Public Awareness – Commissioner Stamper said she and Commissioner Heywood met with Town Communications Manager Dani Flynn a few weeks ago. They provided some feedback to her and discussed ways they can connect and work together moving forward
- Regional Partnerships – Chair Higgins expressed frustration with the lack of communication regarding status updates for the Northern Regional Recreation Center. Director Fitzsimmons said he would request monthly updates from the County.

9) New Business

a) Xtreme Lacrosse Partnership Agreement
Superintendent Cauble shared a presentation [see attached] regarding the renewal of PARC's partnership agreement with Xtreme Lacrosse. After a short discussion, Commissioner Fouche made a motion to authorize the PARC Director to finalize the 2020 Xtreme Lacrosse Partnership Agreement for one year, with annual renewal options for an additional four years, based on the general terms presented. Commissioner Rusk seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

10) Adjournment – Chair Higgins adjourned the meeting at 6:52 pm.

Next Meetings – Thursday, March 5, 2020
Future Dates – Thursday, April 2, 2020; Thursday, May 7, 2020; Thursday, June 4

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2020

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
No Attachments Available		

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2020

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
2020.2.29.February_Director_Report.pdf	February 2020 Director's Report	Backup Material

PARC Director's Report
February 2020

PROGRAMMING

Recreation Centers

- Lake Norman Youth Orchestras continued with 36 participants.
- Completed a session of SKWOD Fit with 4 participants. (2019 – 8)
- Completed 4 sessions of Tai Chi with 25 participants. (2019 – 16)
- Lake Norman Bridge Club served 791 participants in January. (2019 –409)
- Coordinated the Sr. Pickleball program with 43 total participants in January. (2019 – 45)
- Cardio Funk had 184 participants in January. (2019 – 226)

Arts Center

- Completed installation of *Home Grown* with 80 artists/works (100 in 2019). Held the opening reception on Friday, February 7, with over 200 attendees.
- Held the heART pARTy on Saturday, February 8, with over 100 attendees (40 in 2019).
- Completed the Adult Winter Session with 9 instructional classes (83 participants), 18 self-directed studio (118 participants), and 1 workshop (cancelled) with 201 participants total and 34 on wait lists vs. in 2019: 11 classes and 86 participants, and 1 workshop (cancelled) with 86 total participants and 18 on wait lists. Completed the Youth Winter Session with 6 classes offered (2 cancelled) and 35 participants total and 1 on a wait list vs. in 2019: 3 classes and 28 participants total and 16 on wait lists.
- The Spring A Session of arts education programs for youth and adults started the week of February 24. Registration for Spring B opens on March 25 for Cornelius residents and March 27 for all other participants.
- Continued planning for 6th annual *Beyond Walls* Public Art Exhibition. Received 24 submissions from 11 artists from 8 different states. Presented submissions to the Public Art Committee on February 11 and they selected 9 sculptures for the 2020 show.
- Completed 8 sessions of Drop-In Art on Mondays and Thursdays with 46 participants vs. in 2019: 8 sessions offered on Mondays and Thursdays with 39 participants.
- Upcoming events: A Morning with the Easter Bunny on Friday, April 3, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, and Art in the Park at Robbins Park on Wednesday, April 15, 1:00-3:00 pm (CMS Teacher Workday).

Athletics

- Cornelius-Davidson Youth Basketball League held its end-of-season tournaments February 17-29.
- LKN Little League hosted their Spring Skills Day on Saturday, February 22, and Sunday, February 23, at WAC.
- Men's Adult Softball League registration will begin in March.
- Managed 635 total hours of facility use in January (645 hours in 2019).

Special Events

- Held the annual Black History Month Celebration on February 1 at Town Hall with approximately 150 in attendance. (150 in 2019)
- Held a Sponsor Appreciation Reception at Eleven Lakes Brewing on February 12 with nearly 40 in attendance. (40 in 2019)
- Marketing is underway for summer camps. Billboard went up on February 17, ads are beginning to run or will run by March 1, in *Cornelius Today, Herald-Citizen*, and *Lake Norman Currents* and *Lake Norman Woman* magazines.
- Upcoming events: New Walk with a Doc program at Antiquity Greenway on Saturday, March 7, 9:00-10:00 am; Outdoor Adventures Hike at Latta Plantation on Sunday, March 8, 1:00-3:00 pm; Walk with a Doc at Antiquity Greenway on Saturday, April 4, 9:00-10:00 am; Hop Into Spring at Robbins Park on Saturday, April 4, 2:00-4:00 pm; Morning Nature Walk at Robbins Park on Tuesday, April 14, 10:00-11:15 am (CMS Teacher Workday); Hooked on Cornelius at Robins Park on Saturday, April 25, 2:00-4:00 pm; and Earth Jam 2020 at Robbins Park on Saturday, April 25, 4:00-7:00 pm.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Under Design

- **Smithville-to-JV Washam Greenway** – Resubmitted for right-of-way authorization to NCDOT based on their comments for revisions. NCDOT anticipates right-of-way authorization in May.
- **Robbins Park Master Plan** – Mecklenburg County provided preliminary feedback. Consultant is making final revisions for a final community workshop at a PARC Commission meeting, and then Town Board approval.
- **Bailey Road Park Master Plan** – Bailey's Glen developer has reviewed construction plans to determine costs and discussed with possible park namer and restauranteur. Staff is reviewing proposal.
- **Plum Creek (Beverly) Greenway** – Water and Land Solutions (WLS) is proceeding with design for a wetland mitigation bank site including grading and stone sub-base for a greenway from the Bailey Road multi-use path to Quiet Brook Lane in the Beverly subdivision. Town will be responsible for the asphalt paving, furnishings, and signage. WLS will be sending a letter to Beverly residents to introduce them to the project.

Completed Bid

- **McDowell Creek Greenway** – Staff submitted a CRTPO Discretionary Funding application requesting $700K for construction. CRTPO is recommending to NCDOT that supplemental funding be approved. Town is awaiting final NCDOT approval or supplemental funds. Construction is planned to begin in May 2020 if Discretionary Funds are approved.

Under Construction

- **Plum Creek (South Bailey Road) Greenway** – Construction is slow due to wet weather, but the greenway is expected to be completed in May of 2020.

OPERATIONS

- **Bailey Road Park** – Replaced broken tennis court caddies and trashcans. Repaired batting cage. Removed sediment deposits from sidewalks at shelter 1. Repaired sewer lift station. Installed and wired AED cabinets at shelter 1 and 2. AEDs are available for use now.
- **Smithville Park** – Entered into a three-year contract with Trident Pool Group to maintain the splash pad. Removed five large dead trees. Repaired shingles on restroom building. Repaired information board.
- **Jetton Neighborhood Park** – Several dead trees and large limbs were removed.
- **Robbins Park** – Hauled away a large trailer load of bamboo. Entered in to a contract with Foster Lake and Pond Management to maintain the three ponds. Repaired maglocks on restroom doors.
- **WAC** – Cleaned up disc golf course and removed trash. Installed and wired AED cabinet. AED is available for use now.
- **Antiquity and Caldwell Station Creek Greenways** – Removed sediment and debris from trails and bridges after flooding.
- **Legion Park** – Repaired door locks. Removed several dead trees and limbs.
- **Torrence Chapel Park** – Regraded ditch beside field 1 to ensure positive drainage to storm inlet. Field lights have been re-lamped but tennis courts are on hold due to wet ground conditions.
- **Fleet** – Serviced and inspected all vehicles in preparation for peak season.

NORTHERN REGIONAL RECREATION CENTER

- Grading is nearly complete.
- Building pad completion, some foundations and some underground plumbing target dates are mid-March.
- Groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for April 22, 10:00-11:00 am.
- Project completion target: Fall 2021

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2020

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
No Attachments Available		