Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture
(PARC) Commission
April 12, 2018
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. **March 2018 Draft Minutes**
4. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES - CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS**
5. **PRESENTATIONS**
   - A. **Sister City Revenue Goal Comparisons**
6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
   - A. **March 2018 Director's Report**
7. **PARC COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORTS**
8. **OLD BUSINESS**
   - A. **PARC Capital Improvements**
   - B. **Future Cornelius Arts Center**
   - C. **Regional Recreation Center**
   - D. **Future Park Capital Funding**
   - E. **FY18 PARC Commission Goals & Committees**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
   - A. **Xtreme Lacrosse Partnership Agreement**
   - B. **Rotary Bench Donation**
   - C. **Lula Bell Houston Recognition**
   - D. **2018 Splashville Splash Pad Hours**

10. ADJOURNMENT

11. NEXT MEETING

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: April 12, 2018

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
2018.3.1.Minutes.pdf	March 2018 Draft Minutes	Backup Material

Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Commission
Thursday, March 1, 2018
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 5:31 pm. He welcomed new PARC Commissioner Andrew Heywood.

2) **Determination of Quorum** - A quorum was reached with nine commissioners in attendance.
Commissioners present: Rob McCloskey, Trey Fouche, Mary Wilson, Carol Livingston, Chris Kolkhorst, Chair Scott Higgins, Andrew Heywood, Dave Rusk, Travis Dancy, and Town Commissioner Denis Bilodeau.
Commissioners absent: None
Staff present: Director Troy Fitzsimmons and Karen Ulmer

3) **Approval of Minutes (February)** – Commissioner Dancy made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 1, 2018, meeting as written. Commissioner Kolkhorst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

5) **Presentations**
   a) Lake Norman Tennis Academy – Julie Mudge
   Julie Mudge, Director of Tennis and Co-owner of Lake Norman Tennis Academy (LNTA), shared a presentation [see attached]. Commissioners Wilson and Kolkhorst said they had personal experience with LNTA and complimented how well their program is run. Ms. Mudge expressed a need for more courts, especially facilities with multiple courts, with at least eight or ten courts at one location. Facilities such as these would bring in tournaments. Commissioner Wilson said the facility in Rock Hill is a good model. You have to have a bank of courts to bring in tournaments.
   b) 10-Year PARC Key Metrics – Troy Fitzsimmons
   Director Fitzsimmons gave a presentation [see attached] that showed graphically some of the metrics that were shared last month. A discussion followed regarding how these graphs make the case for how well PARC has been performing.
   c) Program Participation Rates – Troy Fitzsimmons
   Director Fitzsimmons gave a presentation [see attached] showing by category, resident vs non-resident participant rates and average non-resident fees over resident fees. Town Commissioner Bilodeau suggested more research needs to be done to determine how much it costs us to provide these programs to non-residents, perhaps the average non-resident fees over res fees should be raised. A discussion followed regarding fees, adult programming options, and quality of life issues.

6) **Director's Report**
Director Fitzsimmons highlighted the following items from his February Director's Report:
- Mecklenburg County is holding its first public workshop for planning the Northern Regional Recreation Center on Saturday, March 10, 10:00 am-1:00 pm, at Bailey Road Recreation Center. It is an open house format.
- Basketball winds down this weekend with some makeup games from a snow day we had earlier in the season.
- Upcoming events: A Morning with the Easter Bunny on Friday, March 23, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, at the Cornelius

DRAFT

Arts Center and Hop Into Spring on Saturday, March 24, 2:00-4:00 pm, at Robbins Park.

- Summer camp registration began at 7:00 am this morning and the status as of 4:30 pm is as follows: Summer Arts & Recreation Camps have sold 30% of available spaces compared to 26% at this same time last year and Summer Sports camps have sold 16% of available spaces compared to 13% at this same time last year. Summer Full Day Camps, which bumped up in capacity from 60 to 100 spaces weekly, sold out their first camp in 30 minutes. Overall, 70% of full-day camp spaces have been sold so far this year compared to 77% sold at this time last year. We have already given out 34 scholarships.

7) PARC Commissioner Recommendations & Reports

a) Items to be placed on record

b) Commissioner Reports

1) Commissioner Rob McCloskey – Last month he put up a post on the Robbins Park neighborhood Facebook page to gauge interest in *Beyond Walls*. Since then, the post has had over 150 views with about 35 of them including very positive comments. We need to look for ways for Beyond Walls to become great not just for Robbins Park but for Cornelius, reaching out to other neighborhoods, moving to other parts of town. He attended Hike Cornelius this past weekend, which had a good crowd. Sid Smith with Lake Norman Wildlife Conservationists is a treasure; be sure to get out to one of these hikes.

2) Commissioner Trey Fouche – He served on the *Beyond Walls* selection committee, which was a fabulous process. The group chose ten pieces of art, purposely did not choose repeat artists. There were more artists submitting this year than have submitted in the past. Public art is expensive but important.

3) Commissioner Mary Wilson – She attended the opening reception for *Home Grown*, which was well done and well attended. Town Commissioner Bilodeau did a great job speaking.

4) Commissioner Carol Livingston – She also enjoyed the *Home Grown* reception and exhibit.

5) Commissioner Chris Kolkhorst – No report.

6) Chair Scott Higgins – He attended the Town's predevelopment meeting on February 2, and described what that committee does. He attended several town board meetings that included discussions about expanding summer camp. He attended a recent meeting with the mayors from Cornelius, Davidson and Huntersville, where they discussed regional cooperation but he doesn't see much of that going on now. On February 6, he attended a meeting with PARC staff and new CAC staff to discuss what might be in the new CAC and what might be at the new regional recreation center. He met with Mayor Washam on February 7 regarding parkland requests. He thought PARC's Facebook Live video on February 16 was a great thing. He had talked with Smithville Community Coalition about playground equipment.

7) Commissioner Andrew Heywood – No report

8) Commissioner Dave Rusk – He asked if, in situations when groups have money to build facilities but not the land on which to build, there would be partnership scenarios, as in "We'll build the building if you bring the land". Director Fitzsimmons said yes, for example synthetic turf at Bailey Road Park with the Carolina Rapids. Commissioner Dancy mentioned that Community School of Davidson is building an athletic complex across from Richard Barry Park in Huntersville in partnership with the Town of Huntersville and the Lake Norman Tennis Association.

9) Commissioner Travis Dancy – No report

c) Town Commissioner Report – Commissioner Denis Bilodeau

The next Cornelius Connection will be held on Monday, March 05, 8:30 am at Harvey's. This one is very important as we are entering the budget season. That same night is a Town Board meeting. Then Wednesday and Thursday, March 7 and 8, is the budget retreat at Graylyn. It is important to attend. The priority appears to be roads. They are looking at a bond package around $22-25 million. Commissioner Kolkhorst asked if there was a land purchasing strategy. Town Commissioner Bilodeau said there isn't one but he would be in favor of having funds on hand to make land purchases as opportunities become available. He favors joint use projects, such as park and fire station on same property. Director Fitzsimmons said we are working with developers and CMS to get parcels as part of their developments, continuously looking for opportunities. On March 22 there will be an evening coffee chat, 6:30-7:30 pm, at Town Hall in room 204.

8) Old Business

a) PARC Capital Improvements

No report

DRAFT

b) Future Cornelius Arts Center
Chair Higgins said they are holding several social functions to fundraise and meeting with architects on predesign. Town Commissioner Bilodeau said the Town Board is looking at loans and bonds, hoping to spread some money from funding roads over to funding the new arts center.

c) Regional Recreation Center
There will be a stakeholders meeting on March 8 in Charlotte, then public meeting at Bailey Road Recreation Center on March 10 mentioned in the Director's Report.

d) Future Park Capital Funding
Director Fitzsimmons said it does look like there will be some funds in the FY19 budget for land acquisition and capital improvements but we are very early in the budget process.

e) FY18 PARC Commission Goals & Committees
No reports

9) New Business

a) Smithville Community Coalition Community Garden Agreement Renewal.
Director Fitzsimmons said several years ago we leased some property to the Smithville Community Coalition (SCC) to develop a community garden. A few years later, the Southenders club helped expand the garden but then walked away. SCC is now maintaining all 65 plots. In the past couple of years, the Town has received three requests to put in a community food cupboard or pantry and there were a number of concerns. Most recently we were approached by Woodlawn School to install a pantry that would be just for toiletries, household cleaners, paper products, etc. They got together with SCC, which welcomed the opportunity to partner and SCC agreed to cover on their insurance. Commissioner Fouche made a motion to approve the lease renewal as presented, which includes up to four annual renewals and would expire December 31, 2023, and which includes the addition of a community cupboard, and to recommend it to the Town Board for final approval. Commissioner Dancy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

10) Adjournment – Chair Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm.

Next Meeting – Thursday, April 12, 2018
Future Dates – Thursday, May 3, 2018; Thursday, June 7, 2018; Thursday, July 12, 2018

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Print

Date of Meeting: April 12, 2018

To: PARC Commissioners

From: Troy Fitzsimmons, PARC Director

Action Requested:

Manager's Recommendation:

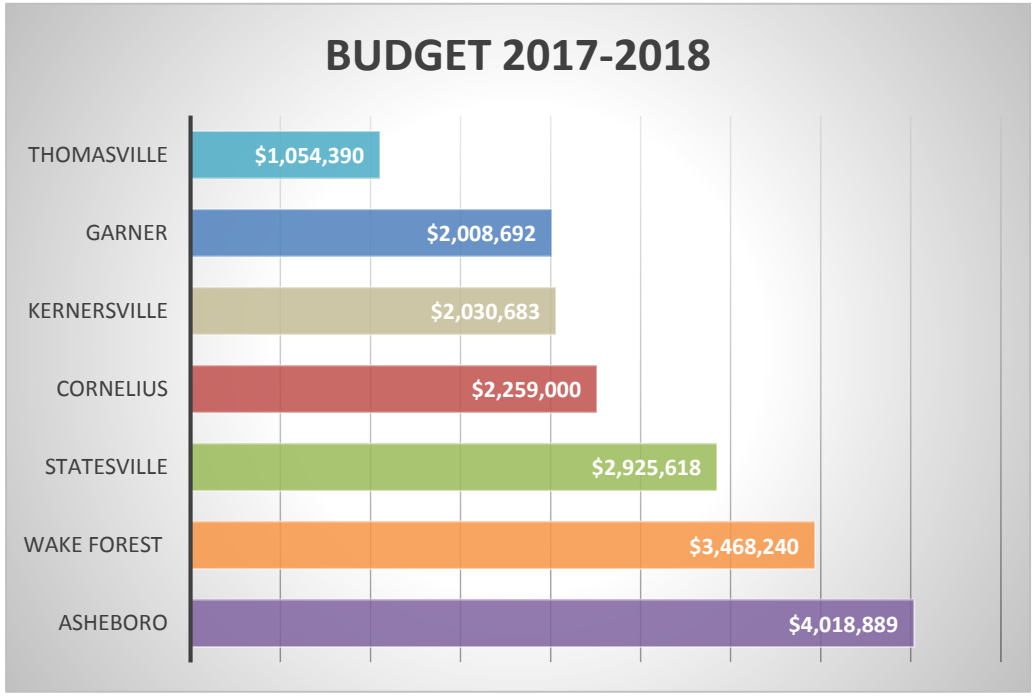
ATTACHMENTS:		
Name:	Description:	Type:
5a_-_Sister_City_Revenue_Goal_Comps.pptx	Sister City Revenue Goal Comparisons	Presentation

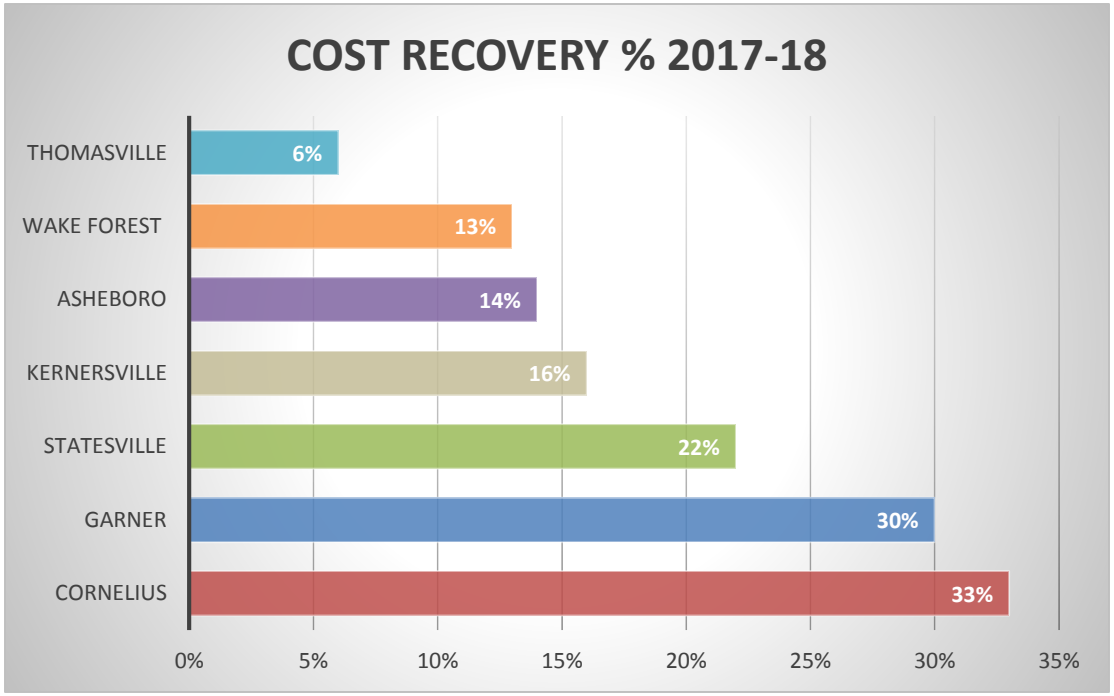
FY17 Sister City Revenue Goal Comparisons

Cornelius PARC Commission

April 12, 2018

REVENUE GOAL 2017-18
THOMASVILLE
$150,000
KERNERSVILLE
$324,568
ASHEBORO
$330,200
WAKE FOREST
$456,250
GARNER
$602,608
STATESVILLE
$631,300
CORNELIUS
$735,000


BUDGET 2017-2018
THOMASVILLE
$1,054,390
GARNER
$2,008,692
KERNERSVILLE
$2,030,683
CORNELIUS
$2,259,000
STATESVILLE
$2,925,618
WAKE FOREST
$3,468,240
ASHEBORO
$4,018,889


COST RECOVERY % 2017-18
THOMASVILLE
6%
WAKE FOREST
13%
ASHEBORO
14%
KERNERSVILLE
16%
STATESVILLE
22%
GARNER
30%
CORNELIUS
33%
0%
5%
10%
15%
20%
25%
30%
35%

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2018.3.25.March_Director_Report.pdf	March 2018 Director's Report	Backup Material

PARC Director's Report
March 2018

PROGRAMMING

Recreation Centers

- Began a new session of Intro and Intermediate classes of Tai Chi for the months of March – April with 16 total participants. (2017 – 14 participants)
- Began a new session of Senior Fit with 8 participants for 2 day a week workout plan and 3 participants for the 3 day workout plan. (2017 – 4 participants)
- Hosted the Northern Regional Recreation Center Workshop that was held at Bailey Recreation Center on March 10. The second public meeting will be held on July 24 at the same location. Details will be finalized and shared over the next two months. The final public meeting will be held in the Fall of 2018.
- 11 Lake Norman Teen Council members volunteered at the Hop Into Spring Event on March 24.

Arts Center

- Held A Morning with the Easter Bunny on March 23 with over 300 in attendance (200 in 2017).
- Concluded the Spring A Session of classes. All 12 adult programs made, with 93 total registrants and 4 on waiting lists (last year 10 of 11 classes made with 73 students). Two workshops were offered but both were cancelled due to low enrollment. All three youth classes made with 31 registrants and 1 on waiting list (last year five of five classes made with 40 registrants). Registration for Spring B classes and workshops is underway, with classes to begin the week of April 9.
- Held five sessions of Drop-In Art with a total of 33 children.
- Planning for the next gallery exhibition, *By Land… By Sea* featuring artist Amy Hart and guest potters. The opening reception will be on Friday, April 27, 6-8pm.
- Planning for *Beyond Walls* 2018-19, securing 9 artists and 11 sculptures for the inclusion of this year's show. An opening reception will take place on Saturday, May 5 from 4-6pm.

Athletics

- LNTA Tennis lessons at Jetton Park continue with 58 participants in the March session (48 in 2017).
- Cornelius/Davidson Youth Basketball League concluded on Saturday, March 3.
- LKN Little League practices began on March 5 and games began on Saturday, March 24. There are 935 participants this spring (850 in 2017).
- Xtreme Lacrosse has 190 participants in the spring season (159 in 2018).
- The Carolina Rapids have 3,367 participants (across three program areas: Recreation, Competitive, and Adult) for the spring season (3,492 in 2017).
- Adult Men's Softball will begin on March 27 with eight (8) teams (12 in 2017). No coed teams registered again this season.
- Planning for the 3rd annual Gaga Ball Tournament on Saturday, April 14, 9am-12pm at Robbins Park; MLB Pitch, Hit & Run on Sunday, April 15, 2pm at McEver Field (Davidson); the 3rd annual Hot Shots Challenge on Saturday, April 28, 3-5:30pm at Bailey Road Recreation Center; and the Cornelius PARC 5K Run & Walk to benefit Warrior Jace on Friday, May 3, 6:30pm at Westmoreland Athletic Complex.
- Managed 510 total hours of outdoor athletic facility use in February (589 in 2017).

Special Events

- Held Hop Into Spring on Saturday, March 24, at JV Washam Recreation Center (moved indoors from Robbins Park due to weather conditions) with approximately 1,100 participants (600 in 2017).
- Planning for 'Tawba Walk on Saturday, April 14, 2-8pm in downtown Cornelius; Earth Day/Hooked on Cornelius on Saturday, April 21, 10am-12pm at Robbins Park; Splashville opening/Smithville Playground Opening & Dedication/Cornelius Jazz Festival on Saturday, May 19, 5-9pm at Smithville Park; and Symphony in the Park on Saturday, June 23, at Bailey Road Park.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Under Design

- **McDowell Creek Greenway** – Construction document revisions are nearly complete. Working with the new property owner to acquire the final easement needed for the project.
- **South Rocky River Greenway** – The process to hire a Construction Engineering Inspection (CEI) firm is underway. Construction documents only are awaiting NCDOT HQ approval in order to receive construction authorization.
- **South Bailey Greenway** – The County added this project to their Capital Improvement Plan for construction which is now funded. The Town has reinitiated construction drawings as part of its contribution towards the project.
- **ADA Legion Parks** – Bids came in and staff are negotiating with the low bid contractor to bring the project within budget.
- **James Hoyt Wilhelm Park** – Parking lot paving bids were received. Carolina Asphalt was the lone bidder. CMS and the Town have verbally agreed to move forward. A formal memo of agreement will be executed and paving will start upon end of the current school year.

Under Construction

- **Smithville Playground** – Demolition of the existing playground has begun and components are on order.
- **Bailey Road Bandshell –** The paving and plant installation have been postponed until April.
- **Bailey Recreation Center** – The curtain manufacturer is going to replace the curtain due to issues with the way it was installed.
- **Robbins Park –** Tennis court resurfacing has been postponed to spring 2018 due to weather.
- **Robbins Park –** Replaced a 24" galvanized drainage pipe that had rusted and collapsed adjacent to the disc golf course.

OPERATIONS

- **Field Renovations** – Early signs show the herbicide/pre-emergent applications are working well. Aerovating will begin in March and continue monthly through August. An RFP for multi-purpose field renovations was released this week. That work will take place in June.
- **Torrence Chapel Park –** Infield renovations and lip removal will be completed by the end of the month.
- **Batter's boxes –** All were rebuilt system wide except the four at JHW Park.
- **Playground safety surfacing** – Bids were received to add fresh engineered wood fiber to the playgrounds. The work was awarded and will be completed in June.
- **Bailey Road Park** –All freeze-related repairs are complete and shelter #1 has reopened.
- **WAC and Bailey Road Park** – Installed new temporary fencing on baseball fields
- **Caldwell Station Creek Greenway** – Removed asbestos from Washam house and secured permits for a training burn and demolition.
- **Picnic shelters and restrooms** – Pressure washed and cleaned for spring season
- **Art Center** – Deep-cleaned the ceramics studio floor

Visitation/car counts: Total visitors, March 2017-February 2018 = 891,790

Month/Year	Cars @ WAC	Cars @ BRP	Cars@ TCP	Estimated Visitors
February 2017	4,199	18,643	2,018	74,580
March 2017	6,900	21,355	3,110	94,095
April 2017	6,846	19,377	3,315	88,614
May 2017	8,670	39,667	3,917	156,762
June 2017	7,992	13,418	2,642	72,156
July 2017	3,723	12,419	1,624	51,298
August 2017	4,745	19,045	2,104	77,682
September 2017	7,606	20,705	3,093	94,212
October 2017	8,984	21,297	3,217	100,494
November 2017	4,185	12,469	3,276	56,790
December 2017	2,145	6,617	241	27,009
January 2018	1,524	7,561	1,213*	30,894*
February 2018	1,378	10,532	2,018*	41,784*

*counter @ TCP not working – car & visitor counts based on prior year

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