

Recreation Committee Meeting

Location: *Central Recreation Center*
(205 E. Main St, Thomasville, NC 27360)
Date: 10/06/2020
Time: 12:00 PM (Noon)

- i. Call to order/ Welcome
 - ii. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 09/01/20
 - iii. Old Business
 - a) Updates on Phase One of the Splash Pad Project
 - b) Updates on Phase One of the Aquatic Center Plan
 - iv. New business
 - a) Phase 2.5 (Limited Re-Opening)
 - b) Children at Play Initiative (Playground Additions, Swing Safety Mats)
 - v. Reports:
 - a) Programs Report
 - b) Athletics Report
 - c) Maintenance Report

Response from Committee Members
 - vi. Adjournment
- The Next Committee Meeting Date: TBD

Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2020

Present: Bill Tagliaferri, Scott Styers, Colon Starett, Cory Tobin, Vince Brown, Molly Hussey, Vickie McKiver, Jarrod Dunbar, Kathleen Sarette, Kevin Leake, Steve Bare, Tony Vizzini, Derek Ruff.

Next meeting: October 6th, 2020 at the Central Recreation Center at 12:00PM

I. Announcements

Jarrod Dunbar called the meeting to order and welcomed members Derek Ruff and Tony Vizzini. Jarrod made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting and motion was approved by Scott Styers and seconded by Bill Tagliaferri. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

- a. **COVID-19** – When COVID-19 began in March we were not able to do a lot of programming and it stopped our grand opening for our new Gymnasium. Athletics were cancelled as well as programming for our seniors and children. Our office has been closed as well as city hall. We were also not able to open the pool this summer due to not knowing how to social distance in a pool. Playgrounds, shelters, centers, and basketball courts are closed but walking trails are still available.

III. New Business

- b. **Splash Pad** – We made an addendum to the contract with CPL to add them as leadership for phase one and design for our Central Recreation Splash Pad location project. Site assessment was done with the same team Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) on August 31st. We wanted the same company to help us with both projects because it would provide continuity between both projects. We are working during this phase to provide an overview on what the cost would be to potentially add this to our community.
- c. **Aquatic Center (RFQ)** – Council met with us at the retreat in January to identify the potential projects we wanted to add to the community. A new Aquatic Center (pool location) and Splash Pad at Central Recreation Center where the tennis court is located at the Central Recreation Center. In June, council appropriated \$25,000 for contracted fees to produce an RFQ for a conceptual design and financial plan for our new aquatic center. We interviewed 15 different firms and narrowed it down to 4 firms that were interviewed. We selected CPL (Clark Patterson Lee) Company out of Greensboro, NC. The first site assessment was held August 31st. Members of their team (Civil engineers, plumbing engineers,

electrical engineers, etc.) did a thorough walkthroughs of the pool location. We plan to follow the timeline for each phase. The idea of the Aquatic Center phase one is to get a 40,000 feet view to see what it takes build an Aquatic Center in our community and have a conceptual design produced. Community engagement will start next week Sept 9th as an online survey which will be available for 6.5 weeks or more. A virtual meeting will be on Sept 17th and October 1st will be our secondary meeting with public engagement. We have a “Breaking News” video that we think will get the citizens attention to share on social media. We believe this will be the best way to get people click the link and take the online survey, to see what the community would like to see at the aquatic center. During these processes they do economic engineering as well so we’ll have project cost and operational cost, so we will see what staffing has to take place at the locations so we can prepare for that within our existing budget.

IV. Reports

- a. **Program Report** – Although COVID-19 stopped most of our programming we have continued to put together certain programs and activities to do with the kids and well as the seniors. Programming staff has programmed many activities such as Hunt for Hearts, Things to Do at Two, Smiles Behind the Masks, Fun on the Run, P.L.A.Y. Events, Senior Postcards, Pillowcase Tie Dye, Scavenger Hunt Downtown, and an Afterschool Book Drop Off where book packages were ordered for every afterschool kid and delivered to them. Craft kits were made for the kids to come and pick up supplies to make crafts at home and he is also offering Virtual Learning for kids who need assistance. We have 2 Drive-In movies that we are currently putting together, one for Halloween and for Christmas.

- b. **Maintenance Report** – Randy and his crew have been working diligently around the city. They have been repairing and painting buildings, mowing all of our park areas, keeping up with landscape and pressure washing where its needed.

After no further business the meeting was adjourned and the next meeting will be held on October 6th, 2020 at the Central Recreation Center at 12:00PM.

Programs Report September 2020

- **Open Gym:** On 9/14 Open Gym opened to the public for walking & single basketball shooting during Phase 2.5. We and our participants are required to follow NCDHHS guidelines for this program.
- **Pickleball:** On 9/14 Pickleball opened to the public during Phase 2.5. To control the amount of attendee's, participants must register to play. Currently under the Phase 2.5 we are limiting the play to 20 people per day. We started with two opportunities per week per person to make sure many had an opportunity to play. With attendance steady but not hitting our 20 limit each day we plan to extend that. We and our participants are required to follow NCDHHS guidelines for this program.
- **Things to do at two** - Continues everyday which are FREE resources that are put out to the community on our Facebook Page. This is something we will continue to do until the Thomasville City Schools students are back in school.
- **Art Contest** - Although we only had two contestants in the Virtual Art Contest it seemed to be a big hit! The kids received tons of feedback and votes from the community. Since we only received two participants both children received a prize basket. We are having a pet costume contest coming up during the month of October.
- **Drive-In Movie** - The Movie which is the Annual showing of Hocus Pocus will be held on October 24th in the Cushwa Stadium parking lot. We have touched base with Dan Etzler from On Target DJ to get the movie preparations in the right order, his company will provide the equipment necessary to make this happen. We were fortunate to have support in sponsorships from PACE of Downtown Thomasville and LGFCU to help offset the increased cost. Registration for vehicles for the movie will begin this Thursday on October 1st. We have prepackaged treat bags as well going out to children while supplies last at the movie.
- **P.L.A.Y.** - During September we hosted two P.L.A.Y. events including the detective games, making bracelets, and launching parachutes. The kids loved the detective game which is a lot of fun but you definitely need a lot more people in the group. For the parachutes it was a big hit. We made two different kinds of parachutes where one worked really well and the other not so much. We launched the parachutes off the back of the bleachers at Cushwa Stadium. With the lack of interest in the Afternoon Adventure Camp we will continue to plan these programs until our After School Program can return.
- **Story Walk** - The newest and final book is Pete the Cats Train Trip. With the weather changing and cooling off we put out the final book Pete the Cats Train Trip. It will be out for another four weeks at our walking trails. After the four weeks we will put the story walk up until next year! This seemed to be a big hit for the community. It was a fun and easy way to promote health and wellness along with literature. We look to continue our Literacy initiatives into the Holiday Season with book giveaways with the Literacy Grant provided by the Doak Finch Foundation.

Athletics

Athletic Programming is still in a holding pattern. We are following the NCHSAA protocols for starting back any Youth Athletics. Currently that would put us on track to start basketball sometime in November. We are looking into trying to do an Adult Volleyball League also, but the 3 w's and capacity limits are obstacles that we are having to work around.

We are currently posting a Meet the Coaches section on our Facebook page. The Meet the Coaches is a profile of some of our coaches that have been with our department for quite some time. It was a chance to give them some credit and appreciation during this down time. They really miss the kids as much as we do.

On Thursday, October 1st we held our first ever Punt, Pass and Kick Competition at Cushwa Stadium. The contest consists of participants punting, passing and kicking a football. They get two attempts at each skill. The skills are measured for distance and accuracy. The total score is added up and the longest total wins. Participants are broken down into age divisions for a chance to compete against even competition. Winners in each age division received an NFL football, kicking tee and an air pump.

Maintenance Report September 2020

- Check parks daily
- Sanitizing trucks and building daily
- Clean farmers market weekly
- Empty trash in parks weekly
- Fire extinguisher inspection monthly
- Mow parks weekly
- Spray parks as needed
- Mow football field 2 to 3 times a week
- Inspect playgrounds Monthly
- Fixed outside lights at Hi toms building
- Worked on hot water heater at Hi toms building
- Worked on sprinklers at Finch field
- Put up basketball goals at Carver, Central, Doak and King Row Parks
- Cleaning shelters weekly
- Reopened playgrounds and basketball courts
- Painted wall in gym from water damage
- Put up new signs in gym
- Fixed book box at Memorial park
- Fixed net in batting cage at Finch field
- Moved chairs to Ballpark for City Council
- Removed grass from Myers ballfields put new bases on number one field
- Weed eated tennis courts at Central
- Removed graffiti off bridge at Memorial park
- Fixed sink drain visitors side concession stand at Cushwa
- Fixed leaking toilet at Central
- Had fuel tank removed at Finch field
- Mulched Carver playground