

# PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

April 27, 2015

7:00 PM

Harrisburg Town Hall

Harrisburg, NC 28075

*Minutes*

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcus King-Chair  
Antonio Porretta-Vice Chair  
Linda Thurman-Secretary  
Michael Gallagher

## OTHERS PRESENT:

Eric Smallwood-Manager  
Lee Conner-Finance Director  
Shawn Marble-Assistant Manager  
Chelsea Nardozzi-Recreation Prog.  
Coordinator

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jensen Caudle, Van Jaynes, and Bob Yates

Marcus King called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

## CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes from March 23, 2015 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting.  
Motion made by Michael Gallagher, seconded by Marcus King. Motion passed unanimously.

## OLD BUSINESS (provided by Eric Smallwood)

### Youth Co-Sponsorship Agreement Update

Eric presented 3 proposals which were prepared by the Active Living and Parks Commission (ALP) for the County Commissioners to address public and association concerns

- Despite the proposals, Harrisburg Parks and Recreation still have an issue with “travel” and not all the issues were addressed however one of the proposal does offer more administrative oversight and field maintenance
- The following motion was presented by the Parks and Recreation board:  
*The Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Board does not support Proposal 2, but the board does support ALP Committee Proposal 1 and 3 with the following five recommendations:*
  1. *For all age groups and sports keep gender specific*
  2. *Number of teams for in house play recommended to four*
  3. *If travel is necessary for Baseball and/or Softball teams, games would be played on Saturdays only and only at a central location, Rocky River Elementary school.*
  4. *If Harrisburg teams represent 51% or more of any county-wide division, the Harrisburg teams must stay in same division*
  5. *Youths can play in any association regardless of their school district.*
- Marcus King made a motion, Mike Gallagher second it, motion passed unanimously
- In addition, the following two recommendations were presented but not approved by the Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Board:
  1. Consolidation associations with low team numbers
  2. Consolidation parks and recreation departments who act independently

### Pedestrian Master Plan:

- Eric reported online surveys and paper surveys had an approximately 15% return rate
- Second public meeting will be a joint meeting between Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Town Planning and Zoning Board on Tuesday, May 12, 2015
- Reminder, due to the Memorial Day holiday, the regular 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, board meeting scheduled for May 25, 2015 will be cancelled

### Eagle Project Discussion – Farmer’s Market Parking Lot

- Boy Scout will plant trees and spread mulch at 9:00 am Saturday, May 2, 2015

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Russ Singer, 312 Henderson Circle, Harrisburg, NC expressed concerns about the existing parks and recreation land (close to the library and Harrisburg Park) that is being inquired about by a local developer
  - Eric Smallwood clarified the land is NOT a parks and recreation property but the Town of Harrisburg’s property
  - The Parks and Recreation Board cannot act on this issue at this time since it has not been officially presented to the board
  - Eric Smallwood offered to follow up with Mr. Singer regarding the property if he had any further questions

### **NEW BUSINESS** (provided by Eric Smallwood)

#### July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Contract:

- Motion made for Town Council to approve July 4<sup>th</sup> contract. Antonio Porretta made a motion, Marcus King second the motion, motion passed unanimously

#### Board Member Updates

- Lee Connor, gave an update of the 501c relationship with the town and what it can do as the “fundraising arm” for the Parks and Recreation and the Town
  - Donated money can be earmarked and donated tax-free
  - Annual audits will be conducted to ensure compliance
  - Eric Smallwood presented an example of Harrisburg Youth Athletics (HYA) would collect money/donations, purchase items then donate items to the town
  - Financial contributors/donors could be publically recognized if they desired

#### Department Updates (provided by Shawn Marble)

- Three April events were very well attended. (Easter Scramble, 5K and Health Expo-30 Health Vendors and the Fireman’s challenge very well received, and Rockin’ the Burg Spring Concert- slightly lower than expected attendance due to weather but overall well received by community members).
  - Planning for 2016 for the 5K and Health Expo will be taking place in the future
- July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration flyer presented, sponsorships are currently being solicited
- No pre-race Memorial Day weekend at the Charlotte Motor Speedway
- Next event, Movies in the Park, Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Big Hero 6

Manager Updates (provided by Eric Smallwood)

- Grant awarded by Dept. of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR)- \$14,000 to address and implement recycling and trash collection in parks (winter 2015 will be going into effect)
- Several events going on over the next few months including, repaving Stalling Road Park, U10 Court and a Pickle court

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Marcus King, seconded by Mike Gallagher. Carried unanimously.  
Meeting ended at 8:51pm

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Marcus King, Chair

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Linda A. Thurman, Secretary