

**VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL**  
**PARKS & RECREATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
September 16, 2013 Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church

**Members Present:** John Lepke, Julie Brown, Mike Como, and Jerry Davis. Pat Utley arrived at 7:15. Alternate member Gayla Adams was present.

**Council Liaison:** Elaine Rosoff was present.

**Members Absent:** Marnie Holland was absent. Council Liaison Kim Ormiston was absent.

**Staff:** Melody Graham was present.

**CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Mr. Lepke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A quorum of committee members was present.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND / OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Como added an Eagle Scout Presentation to the beginning of the agenda. Ms. Brown added a Discussion of the Riley's Catch Program to the beginning of the agenda. Mr. Como added a Discussion on Storage Options to the agenda under new business.

Mr. Como moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one signed up for public comments.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM 8/26/13 SPECIAL MEETING**

Mr. Como moved to approve the minutes from the 8/26/13 Special meeting as submitted. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION/PROPOSAL**

Coby Bloxham with Troop 406 presented his idea for his Eagle Scout project. He stated: He would like to build five benches to be placed throughout the park. He will build these off-site, stain them, round the corners, then deliver the finished product to the park for placement. The cost for each bench is approximately \$100/bench. There will be no cost to the Village as he will raise the funds for the project. He will work with other volunteers to complete the project. He will begin the project once he receives approval from the Parks & Rec Committee and then his troop leadership. His plan is to have the benches completed by the time of the park opening.

Ms. Brown stated that the Friends of WC Parks and Rec would likely be able to assist him in getting a better deal on his purchase. She added: The organization is a 501C3 and has a relationship with Lowe's. They receive a significant discount on purchases. They could work with him to get the better pricing, but he would be responsible for the actual purchase.

Mr. Lepke moved to approve the Eagle Scout project for park bench construction. Mr. Como seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**DISCUSSION ON RILEY'S CATCH PROGRAM**

Ms. Brown introduced Rod Goodall with the Riley's Catch program and asked him to discuss the program. Mr. Goodall stated: He is new to the area. He is a close friend of the Laymen family and just moved here to set up a 501C3 for Riley's Catch. His purpose in attending the meeting is to build relationships and to get the word out about the program.

He added: Riley laid out his plan for the program in a letter before he passed. He wanted to use the program to connect with teens and get them in a safe, social, outdoor setting. Riley's Catch is trying to create that environment. It uses faith and fishing to do that. Signups were held 2 weeks ago at Weddington High School and over 200 kids signed up. The Board of Directors has been setup. They are trying to establish an Advisory Board now. Their 5 year vision is to have all 15 Union County Schools establish a Riley's Catch program, then spread the program into Mecklenburg Country and eventually across the state. They would like to find a location to serve as their 'home course'. This would be a place to bring the kids to begin to learn how to fish. They hope to participate in tournament fishing, a fishing academy, community projects, social fishing and pond tournaments.

Mr. Lepke suggested two possible community projects to consider. He stated: There is a need to clear a path to the pond for the NC Wildlife vehicle to drive to in order to unload fish and to feed fish. There are also a lot of dead trees around the edge of the water that could be thinned.

Ms. Brown suggested that a fishing tournament might be possible for the park Grand Opening. Mr. Goodall expressed interest in participating in the Park Opening event in some way.

The Committee discussed the Riley Catch program in depth with Mr. Goodall.

Mr. Como agreed to schedule a time to take Mr. Goodall to the park to show him the pond.

#### **UPDATE ON COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF DOGWOOD HOUSE PLANS AND NEXT STEPS**

Mr. Lepke stated: The Village originally received verbal quotes for the Dogwood House demo in the \$10,000-\$15,000 range. These were given over the phone without seeing the project or knowing the complete scope. He now has quotes by 2 companies who have been to the site, and he is hoping to have another quote in time for the Council meeting. The Morlando quote was approximately \$28,000. The second quote was \$23,600. Ms. Ormiston will take this information to the Council, along with a suggested plan for where the funds will come from. The Council originally approved \$7000 in order to make the house safe. There is another \$7000 budgeted for roof repair. We budgeted approximately \$9000 for the tractor purchase, which we can forgo for this budget year, along with the part-time labor. That will bring us close to the needed funds for demolition.

The Committee discussed the demolition project in depth.

Mr. Como suggested leaving the concrete pad under the garage if possible to use for the porta-john placement. Mr. Lepke agreed to check on if this would be possible.

#### **UPDATE ON PARK CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Lepke stated: All the clearing that needs to be done has been completed. All the trees that need to come out have been removed. There are large piles of trees and brush that will have to be mulched before work can continue. The contractor is waiting on the delivery of the mulching truck to finalize this work. Once the trees have been shredded, the mulch piles will be left around the park to cure, then they may be used for landscaping needs. The detention basin has been dug and the swales have been prepared. The next construction meeting will be held on Monday, 9/23 at 8 a.m. Construction meetings are every 2 weeks on Monday mornings at 8 a.m.

The Committee discussed the park construction in depth.

**DISCUSSION OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES FOR RIBBON CUTTING EVENT WHEN PARK OPENS**

The Committee discussed the Park Opening in depth. They agreed that the opening date would likely be in mid-March. Mr. Lepke agreed to get the budget number to Ms. Utley to assist in the planning process. The Committee agreed that the opening will be a bigger event, to include the community instead of just volunteers and dignitaries. The Committee agreed that the event would last around 3-4 hours.

Ms. Utley agreed to meet with WC Friends of Park & Rec to discuss possible plans for the event. She agreed to put together a list of ideas and draft an itinerary for the day for the next meeting.

**DISCUSSION ON STORAGE OPTIONS AT DOGWOOD PARK**

Mr. Lepke stated that once the house is demolished, we will need something to use for storage at the park. Mr. Como stated: He investigated metal shipping containers to use for temporary storage. These are not expensive. They are basic, yet very functional, and are wind and water tight. They are a more secure option for storage over a metal shed. They would be a temporary measure for storing equipment. They can be resold once finished with them. The cost is \$2200 for an 8x20' unit and \$2850 for an 8x40' unit. There is a delivery charge of \$350.

Mr. Lepke added that the decision to have storage is tied to the demolition of the house.

Mr. Como recommended that the option would be to go with the larger trailer due to the amount of items needing to be stored.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Council the purchase of a shipping container for storage at the park.

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

There were no additional committee comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Lepke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted:

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Melody A. Graham, Secretary

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John Lepke, Chair

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_