

VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL PARKS & REC COMMITTEE MINUTES  
September 15, 2014-7:00 PM  
6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, NC 28104

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Pat Utley, Jerry Davis, Marnie Holland  
**Committee Members Absent:** Julie Brown, John Lepke, Alternate Gayla Adams  
**Others present:** Council Liaison Mike Como, Clerk Cheryl Bennett,

**CALL TO ORDER / DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. A quorum was present.

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

Items for “Girl Scouts to Mark Trail” and “Christmas Event” were added to the agenda. Jerry Davis motioned to approve the agenda, Marnie Holland seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 18, 2014 MEETING**

Marnie Holland motioned to approve the August 18, 2014 minutes; Jerry Davis seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Whitley, Director of Union County Parks and Recreation, reported on their work to develop a County Parks and Rec Master Plan. They have inventoried all recreation facilities in the county, did a phone survey, and have an on-line survey for citizens to take. Their first public meeting is tomorrow night at the Ag Center.

Mike Como asked about community center use; Mr. Whitley suggested contacting the Ag Center; he will also try to get some info.

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. Emily Roth – Fun Run/carnival games

Emily Roth presented information on her Girl Scout gold Award project - Dress for Success – to provide school uniforms by holding clothing drives to establish uniform closets. She is holding a fun run in November, and the registration fee is a complete uniform – top and bottom. She asked if she could use our carnival games at the Fun Run. The Committee was generally favorable towards the request, and asked Cheryl Bennett for her perspective; she noted if you do it for one non-profit, you should do it for all, also it should probably be run by council. Marnie Holland motioned to recommend to council that they lend the carnival games to Emily Roth for the Fun Run. Jerry Davis seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Colin Love – Eagle Scout project

Colin Love noted that he would like to do his Eagle project at Dogwood Park on the nature trails or the pond. Mike Como asked him to schedule a time to look at the needs at the park, and noted Lowe’s on Cuthbertson Road has been helping financially with project supplies.

## UPDATE ON PARK

Mike Como reported on work done with the weeklong rental of the bobcat. He re-graded and graveled the crossing bridges, the ramp for fish stocking is now complete, he started the dog park yesterday and drilled fifty holes, and the gate on Hwy. 84 is done. He would like to complete fencing all along Hwy. 84. Mulch is now by the pier for spreading, and the silt fencing is down and the area graded. He reported a letter was sent by the Mayor to the person involved in the paint incident; Mike got two bids and we will have the low bid of \$444 from Zap It remove remaining paint on the trees. We will submit the bill to the person involved for reimbursement. There was an accident at the park entrance that took out a tree and our stop sign, so we will charge that out also.

## OLD BUSINESS

### OPEN:

- a. Tree replacement/landscaper recommendations and provide to Gary Wirth

The four white oak trees will be replaced, also re-seeding will be done soon, and we will need to replace the tree at the entrance.

- b. Amenities update – Survey (bathroom etc.); Playground – all inclusive if built after March 2012; Indian Trail playground team to share experience at the next meeting?  
Carolina Court contacts

John Lepke is working on a survey. Mike Como has been in touch with playground manufacturers. Perhaps the Indian Trail people can come to the next meeting. Marnie Holland and Pat Utley commented they prefer more natural play areas at the park, another spot might be better for a playground. What would be in a survey was briefly discussed – the town hall area, the community center? Marnie Holland did not want to see a lot of paved parking at the park. Jerry Davis thought a playground should be a part of the park. Cheryl Bennett mentioned a faerie garden area at a park in Kentucky as an example of a more natural play area; she will send the info to Marnie.

- c. Mulch

No one got any mulch, but one person wants some of the log stumps. .

- d. Master Gardener – Jerry to call extension center

Jerry hasn't called yet but thinks we will get some support, maybe we could have an area they could "adopt". Marnie suggested we might want an overall plan to make things cohesive, Pat Utley and Jerry Davis agreed it would be more professional looking. She will check with a friend who does landscape plans.

- e. Skate board protection

This hasn't been a problem.

- f. Skid steer

The rental skid steer goes back tomorrow; we will need it again to do fencing all along Hwy. 84, maybe the Civil Air Patrol students can help. We need fencing from the end of the dam to the electrical box.

- g. Geocaching

Pat Utley and Mike Como will plan to meet on this next week.

h. Duke Power Easement

Mike Como reported Council re-voted to dis-allow the easement on our land so Duke will put a larger pole on the other side of the street.

i. Secure Donation Box

Mike Como reported Council was not in favor of the donation box. He talked to Sondra Bradford about having envelopes so people could mail in a donation. Ideas will be scoped out and brought back to the committee. A brick fund raiser was also discussed.

j. Facility Maintenance /Programming committees

For now, mowing is done on a month to month basis. Marnie will make a flyer to recruit volunteers, at present we do not have enough people for two committees. An event needs to be planned, possibly a movie night.

k. Discussion of additional signage required for park operation – Bulletin boards in NC Wildlife fishing area; Monument Sign RFP – Committee approved changes in last meeting.

Two no parking signs were put up. We need a sign for the gravel nature trail. Only one bid was received for the monument sign RFP, this project is stalled.

COMPLETED: (discussed earlier)

- a. Handicap picnic table pad (now have 6 regular tables / 2 handicap accessible and four grill areas)
- b. Park gate – electronic open/close
- c. Farm Gate for Hwy. 84 entrance

DISCUSSION OF PRIORITY OF PARK PROJECTS REQUIRING COMPLETION

- a. Next Volunteer days – Saturday (9/27, 10/11, 10/25 10am – 2 pm)
- b. Improved tracking of volunteers

Marnie Holland would need a separate sign in form; we will keep it as is for now.

- c. Volunteer Projects

We will advertise the dog park; there is a lot of activity at the FOPR Facebook page. One Boy Scout is doing a staircase up the hill.

DISCUSSION OF PARK EVENTS AND USE BY GROUPS

Information from the PARTF grant manual was shared; we are expecting more information from our PARTF contact.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- a. New recruit interested – available to attend beginning October
- b. General

Marnie Holland noted our Girl Scout volunteer is doing signs to label plants; she can use a wheel to get actual trail mileage, and include miscellaneous facts, and put a dogwood on the signs. Details are still being worked out.

Marnie Holland reported FOPR want to do a December 6, 2014 tree lighting ceremony at the park, have hot cocoa, and nut cracker dancers. Maybe we could have trees around the amphitheater decorated by groups.

The current year parks and rec budget report was reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

Marnie Holland motioned to adjourn; Jerry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cheryl Bennett, Clerk

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Pat Utley, Chairman