

VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL PARKS & REC MINUTES

July 19, 2010-7:00 PM

Wesley Chapel Town Hall

4107 New Town Road, Wesley Chapel, NC 28173

Committee Members Present: Bill Bennett, John Lepke, Pat Utley, and Regina Hilbert

Committee Members Absent: Julie Brown, Mike Gaiamo, Marnie Holland, Greg Miller, Elaine Rossof

Non-Committee Members Present: Council Members Sondra Bradford and Todd Hess, Residents Diana Bowler, Stacy Brocius, and Carol Mullis

John Lepke called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

1. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND / OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was approved.

2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM JUNE 21, 2010

Minutes of June 21, 2010 were approved.

3. UPDATES ON PAGE PRICE PARK, DOGWOOD, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Page Price Park

Lepke explains elevated cost of the dam (\$410,000). States that the property will cost \$677,000 when factoring in cost of the dam and the additional land that would be required to be purchased on top of the donation to make the park functional.

Lepke walks through spreadsheet of different capital improvement cost option scenarios that impact parks, including Page Price Park with a new town hall, Dogwood with a new town hall, and using Dogwood as the town hall.

Bennett advocates to purchase Dogwood instead of moving forward with Page Price Park. Regina comments that it will be difficult to walk away from the grant. Bradford comments that per Jon Wood of Haden Stanziale we can reapply for the grant without fallout.

Mullis comments that she thinks the airport will cause Highway 84 to be widened sooner and that widening the road would take out the pond.

Bradford responds that DOT said they could do a three lane road in that area since there isn't much space to have a four lane divided highway at that point of 84.

Mullis advocates pursuing the Swim Club. Lepke responds that the Swim Club doesn't meet citizens' park needs as they were expressed in the survey.

Lepke says if we purchase Dogwood we could put in less expensive amenities like benches and picnic tables and leave the rest of the park passive but that we wouldn't be able to deliver more expensive amenities immediately, at least without a grant.

Lepke comments that the Dogwood property is large enough to accommodate all the amenities citizens indicated they wanted on the P&R survey.

Committee votes to turn down PARTF grant and not to pursue Page Price Park but to pursue the Dogwood property and reapply for the PARTF grant in 2011. Vote is unanimous.

4. UPDATE ON FALL HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Bowler says Lowes Food has committed as a primary sponsor for the Festival. Blockbuster is donating gift cards, the Coffee Table will be a principal sponsor, and Market Express will be an associate sponsor.

Turning Point will be charity focus of the Festival.

Lepke is working on the parade. Has Scout contacts. Also organizing the Scout gold rush (kids hunt for “gold” rocks and use them as admission to games. Can only have 5 pieces of “gold” at a time or get put in jail.) Looking for candy donations and hay bales.

Ray Davis has a friend who can supply antique tractors for the parade. Mustang Club will also participate.

Brocius will ask the Union County Mommies group if they would like to participate.

Lepke suggests staging the parade off of Will Plyler Road since the Fire Station may not be available as a staging ground. Parade should take about 30 minutes.

Bennett and Brocius both interested in Buy-a-Brick fundraising for P&R. Bennett says you can get a brick with 3 lines of text for \$18 per brick. Suggests monthly brick laying ceremonies. Could sell for \$50. Could also dedicate benches, trees, picnic tables.

Brocius suggests charging nominal fee for activities like the gold rush and arts and crafts activities. Also could sell t-shirts.

Will have 25 booths for the moment for vendors and community groups.

5. UPDATE ON CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL

Joshua Langen, zoning administrator, has prepared some preliminary greenway routes for the town following a north-south artery. Will refine them after attending Thread Trail citizen focus groups.

Marnie Holland, our Thread Trail rep, is at a focus group tonight but left messages for Bradford to relay to the committee. She encourages the committee to attend one of the sessions this week. She also shares that the Thread Trail conducted a phone poll of Union County residents to identify destinations in Union County that the Thread Trail should connect with, and that only 1% of 400 respondents indicated Wesley Chapel as a destination.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Bradford shares per Marnie Holland that the Union County Weekly recently published a story highlighting what other towns were doing in the way of Parks & Rec. Indian Trail, Stallings, and Weddington are all focusing on various initiatives to advance P&R in their towns. Also Waxhaw was recognized for their historical preservation efforts.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.