



**Town of Mooresville  
Cultural & Recreation Services Department**

Post Office Box 1455  
418 Carpenter Avenue  
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115  
(704) 663-7026

# Mooresville Parks and Recreation Advisory Board April 2, 2019 Minutes

## Members Present

Mitch Abraham  
Michael Royal  
Recreation  
Thurman Houston  
Lawrence Williams  
School/  
Tina Slevin  
Administrator  
Steve Mangum  
Amy Lowe

## Members Absent

Beau Evans

## Staff Present

Pam Reidy, Director  
Latasha Singletary,  
  
Programs Manager  
Marvet Spencer, After-  
  
Summer Camp

### I. Call to Order/Determination of a Quorum

Mitch called the meeting to order at 6 pm and declared a quorum.

### II. Approval of January 8, 2019 Minutes

Mitch gave the board time to look over the minutes and, since there were no comments or changes, called for the motion to approve. The motion was made by Steve and seconded by Lawrence; it passed unanimously.

### III. New Business

- After-School Licensure Presentation: Pam introduced Marvet Spencer, After-School and Summer Camp Administrator for the Town, and Latasha Singletary, Recreation Programs Manager. Both presented information concerning licensure of the Selma Burke Recreation Center and its programs. Ms. Spencer explained the process for obtaining licensure and the benefits of having a licensed facility. Latasha called attention to the disadvantages of having a licensed facility, and the advantages of continuing to operate without licensure. Steve questioned why participant numbers decreased after licensure was obtained, and Marvet explained that it was due to a drop in the staff-to-participant ratio required by the licensing organization. She explained that space was limited, thereby limiting the number of students. Without licensure, this would not be an issue. Amy was concerned about security and asked if standards would remain the same without licensure as with; Ms. Spencer assured her they would.



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Pam stated her main concern with having licensure is that no one other than registered participants would be able to take advantage of the new facility during after-school and summer camp hours, meaning that many children, as well as adults, wishing to use the facility would have to be turned away.

Marvet explained that the entire Selma Burke facility is considered one site by the Child Development of NC organization, which inspects the facility (including surrounding grounds) on a regular and unannounced basis. There are also regular sanitation inspections of the facility.

Board members were in favor of no licensure, as long as standards are maintained, and participant safety is guaranteed. Marvet recommended licensure be removed and the center be allowed to operate as if it were still a licensed facility.

Mitch called for a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that licensure of the Selma Burke facility and programs be dropped; he added a second motion to have Marvet and Latasha compose a brief review to be presented along with the recommendation to the Board.

Lawrence made the motion, Steve seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- Reed Creek Park: Pam made a presentation to the Board regarding Reed Creek Park in the Meadows at Reed Creek subdivision. The park was deeded to the Town by the subdivision years ago and is basically just a parcel of land in the middle of a draft greenway network plan. There are serious issues such as a stump dump on the property, the disintegration of vegetation, and the cost to maintain the parcel of land. Pam went on to present two options: 1) consider deeding the “park” back to the subdivision while retaining a 50’ easement off the creek for a potential greenway, thereby allowing the department to remove the park from its inventory, and 2) remove it from park inventory but keep the park as natural greenspace, allowing it to return to its natural state. The park grounds would continue to be inspected on a quarterly basis but would require a minimal level of maintenance to make sure no one is occupying, dumping, or otherwise misusing the property. The final recommendation was that the Town keep the property and let it return to its natural state.
- CMCC Operations/Staffing: Pam informed the Board that the Charles Mack Citizen Center is now once again under Parks & Recreation and interviews are being held for the position of manager of the facility. The other aspect of the position will be programming the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville Senior High School, concerning which Michael Royal’s input has been invaluable.
- War Memorial/Liberty Park Visioning Project: Mitch informed the Board that a Visioning Committee has been established to work with a Colorado consulting firm in determining the public’s vision for Phase II of Liberty Park and the new facility that will replace the outdated War Memorial. Mitch invited the Advisory Board to the public meeting on April 4, at which time there will be opportunities for citizen input as well as a general (projected) estimate of the cost involved. He reiterated the need to move forward with a center that can accommodate all the amenities and activities desired by Mooresville citizens. Pam agreed by saying that the goal is to get the community input, vision, backing, etc. so that even if the Board of Commissioners changes, the public will continue to support the vision and goals. She added that she is particularly interested in assessing public support for an indoor aquatics center. Michael Royal agreed, saying he currently must take his swim teams to Rowan County or Statesville to swim.



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- Skate Park: The Mooresville Skate Park was recently closed after Risk Management shut it down for repair and maintenance. Pam said the shutdown ended up being a good thing, as it led to many positive discussions with skaters, and to hiring a consultant to do an assessment. The dated, secondhand equipment will be gradually phased out and replaced with high-quality concrete, resulting in a skate park Mooresville can be proud of.
- Disc Golf Course: A redesign for the new 18-hole disc golf course has been completed, and funds to reconstruct will be requested in the FY20 budget.

#### IV. Upcoming Events

Pam reminded everyone of the Community Input Meeting on April 4, the performance of Magician

Arthur Trace on 4/5, the Mazeppa Mountain Bike Trail Ribbon Cutting on 4/7, and the Easter Eggstravaganza on 4/13.

#### V. New Business

Lawrence mentioned he hadn't heard anything concerning his church's participation in the Easter Eggstravaganza; Debbie will reach out to Nikki Sloop about this.

Mitch said he wants to investigate putting a nice (not high-dollar), passive dog park on the wooded property on Blackwelder Farm Road near Fire Station 3.

Thurman stated he appreciates the Board's input and fully supports its recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

Michael announced there will be concerts and a spring musical at the Performing Arts Center and that, beginning May 1, the public will be allowed to rent the facility. Numerous bands and other groups have shown an interest in performing at the center.

Pam thanked everyone for their attendance and input, and reminded them of the next Advisory Board meeting on August 6.

#### VI. Adjournment

As no further comments were offered, Mitch called for a motion to adjourn. Michael made the motion,

Lawrence seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.