



**MINUTES
WATAUGA PARKS ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022
2:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Andra Dunn called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Stanley Hill	Place 1
Andra Dunn	Place 2
Natasha Havrda	Place 3
Tim Bobseine	Place 4
Lindy Riggall	Place 5(Absent without notice)

And

Chad Stephens	Interim Parks and Recreation Director;
Linda Proskey	City Secretary
Jan Hill	City Council Primary Board Liaison
Arthur Miner	City Mayor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board member Place 1 Stanley Hill announced that the Watauga Public Library has been recognized for the tenth year in a row with the Texas Library of Excellence Award.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Swear-in new Board members.

Linda Proskey administered the Oath of Office to the following:

- Place 1, Stanley Hill

PUBLIC COMMENT

Requests for Public comment were not received

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

Requests for public testimony were not received.

REPORTS

1. **Receive update on Parks, Recreation and Senior Services:**

Interim Director Chad Stephens presented this item to the board and explained ongoing and upcoming events at the Hector Garcia Recreation Center and City Parks that included:

- The grounds maintenance contractor has started pruning service of perennial park trees. They have also completed mulch distribution throughout the city per contract.
- The Capp Smith picnic pavilion project approved by the City Council will commence construction in the upcoming week.
- The city has enrolled in the Texas trash free waters project and has identified an area for adoption with capability to expand designated sites. Details can be found on the Watauga social media site.
- Six new trees have been added to the Capp Smith Park grounds with an additional six remaining to plant.
- Capp Smith Park fish stocking is trying to be coordinated to restart just prior to the kid fish event in September. Restocking was affected and did not happen last year as an unintended consequence of the pandemic.
- Wataugafest planning and formalizing is tracking for 19-22 May dates. Food vendors for supporting the event still need to be acquired.
- The February 11th Daddy Daughter dance event at the recreation center was a success with approximately 150 attendees.
- Yard of the month competition will start on April 1st. Interim Director Stephens gave a summary of grading and how the program will work. Details are available on the Watauga Social media site.
- Interim Director Stephens gave a summary of food distribution schedules at the Recreation Center available for seniors and those in need.
- Interim Director Stephens gave explanation to concerns of the duck population at Capp Smith Park and how it relates to normal migration patterns.
- The shed removal at the Hector Garcia center is being coordinated with PWC.
- Temporary positions to support summer camp at the Recreation center were not budgeted this year and a summer camp program is currently not scheduled to take place.
- Interim Director Stephens gave an overview of cost associated with starting up the Hometown Hero program to augment the Veteran Memorial area of Capp Smith Park.
- Interim Director Stephens provided an overview of Volunteer opportunities and enrollment procedures on the city's web page for the various city departments. The next major event currently scheduled requiring volunteers for the city is Wataugafest in May.

Board member Stanley Hill inquired about repairs and upkeep to the Rental facility located at Foster Village Park. Interim Director Stephens stated that his budget does not include building upkeep and is not in his scope of responsibility. The repairs required to that facility are structural, extremely costly and beyond just cosmetic upkeep. Interim Director Stephens did emphasize that the facility is safe for public use in its' current state.

Chairperson Andra Dunn inquired about open gym times for the community during the Summer. Interim Director Stephens said that the Center Staff is coordinating a schedule now to allow some "open" gym times around other Center activities.

Board member Tim Bobseine inquired about progress on limited number pool passes at Area pools for Watauga residents. Interim Director Stephens reports no progress to date and area pools have not been contacted.

Board member Tim Bobseine requested an opening schedule from Interim Director Stephens for the Capp Smith Park Splash pad. Memorial Day weekend is the planned reopening. Interim Director Stephens did mention that the construction of the new picnic pavilion project might impact splash pad operations intermittently for safety concerns with the various stages of construction.

Board member Tim Bobseine inquired about Wataugafest advertising. Interim Director Stephens explained that in addition to social media that the City's gateway electronic signs will be used. He has also arranged some free advertising from the Clear channel electronic billboard on Denton Highway when they have available space.

Board member Stanley Hill recommended a small ceremony when the Splash pad re-opens for the season at Capp Smith Park.

Board Member Tim Bobseine suggested making the Splash Pad a possible source of revenue for the city by promoting the location to local food trucks.

Chairperson Andra Dunn recommended advertising for Wataugafest sponsors on City social media. She also supported a small celebration to accompany the re-opening of the Splash pad.

City Council liaison Jan Hill recommended using the City's electric signage to advertise volunteer opportunities within the city. Mayor Miner suggested that the Watauga Recreation center sign could be used without any approval from WEDC since the sign is the specific property of and individually controlled by the Recreation Center.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consider action to approve the Parks Advisory Board Meeting minutes for January 5, 2022**

Member Tim Bobseine made motion to approve item as presented, member Natasha Havrda seconded the motion. Chairperson Dunn Called for a vote. Motion carried 4-0-0-1

Ayes: Hill, Dunn, Havrda, Bobseine

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Riggall

2. **Discuss and consider action on electing a Vice-Chair to the board**

There were no volunteers to fill this vacant board position from present members.

Chairperson Andra Dunn officially postponed filling this position until the next regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation board.

3. **3. Discuss and provide direction on a pilot program for doggy bags in Foster Village Park.**

Interim Director Stephens explained that Foster Village ball fields have somewhat morphed into a dog park and that persons utilizing the park for this function do not always clean up their dog's waste.

Chairperson Andra Dunn pointed out that this issue will remain until an alternative (official dog park) is made available.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Andra Dunn adjourned the meeting at 3:01 p.m.

APPROVED: this 16th day of July, 2022.

SIGNED: this 15th day of July, 2022.

APPROVED:

A. Dunn /s/
Andra Dunn, Chairperson

ATTEST:

T. Bobseine /s/
Tim Bobseine, Secretary

NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office