

# Smithfield Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting November 19, 2013

The Smithfield Recreation Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at Smithfield Recreation & Aquatics Center.

Members Present:	Angela Rabil	Daniel Sanders
	Earl Marrett	Scott Wright
	Chris Howell	

New HS Representatives:	Callie Britt	Zackary Taylor
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Members Absent:	Richard Knight	Andy Moore
	David Lasater	Clayton Narron
	Robbie Parker	Lyn Andrews
	Jackie Bryant	

Staff Present:	Tim Johnson, Director
	Gary Johnson, Assistant Director
	Dale Ham, SRAC Director
	Tiffany Pearson, Recreation Supervisor
	Dennis Tyner, Maintenance Supervisor
	Laura Crumpler, Aquatics Supervisor
	Kristin Sasser, Recreation Center Supervisor
	Jon Moore, Athletic Programs Supervisor

Tim welcomed our new High School Representatives – Callie Britt and Zachary Taylor, both of whom are Seniors at SSS.

**Update on 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friends of the Park Fundraising Event** - Tim updated the group on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friends of the Park Fundraising Event that was held in October. This year we raised about \$2,000 more than last year, with a grand total of a little over \$20,000, which will be given to the town to pay down the debt. There is also some discussion about moving the event to September next year, as there were several conflicts this year in October.

**Update on "Partnership to Build a Miracle" project** – Tim gave a little more background on this for our new members. The total cost of the project will be around \$1.2M - @ \$600,000 for the field and around \$500,000 for the inclusion playground. Town of Smithfield is applying for a grant from the State. Grant, if awarded, would probably be between \$300-\$500k. Earl Marret made a motion to support the PARTF Grant, which was unanimously approved. The grant is due at the end of January, with a decision in May. Tim noted that this will probably be really competitive this year, because they only have \$3M in funds available this year, as opposed to close to \$11M last year. This project is pretty special though, so hopefully they will be awarded funds.

**Johnston County Recreation Master Plan** – Johnston County Visitors Bureau has started the bid process to get a Jo. Co. Recreation Master Plan done. (They will pay for this new plan.) Earl Marret noted that Wake County used hotel/motel occupation taxes to help build Mudcat Stadium – which could be done here. Tim noted that we got \$10,000 from Smithfield hotels and \$10,000 from a Visitors Bureau Grant. At this time, Earl suggested that we see if we could work up some specials with Hibbits during some of our tournaments.

**Upcoming Christmas Events:**

December 5<sup>th</sup> – Tree Lighting, 7pm

December 6<sup>th</sup> – Race packet pick-up for Pre-Registered Grinch Run Participants, 12-7pm

December 6<sup>th</sup> – Swim with Santa, 6pm

December 9<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party (RAC & SPRD Staff) 6:30pm.

December 12<sup>th</sup> – Parade, 7pm (be at assigned spots at 5:30pm)

If you can help with any of these events, please let Tiffany know.

**Updates from Staff:**

Dennis Tyner – Usual maintenance of fields going on... starting to slow down a little now. Put benches on the Greenway last weekend. Have also been cleaning up portion near the river.

Laura Crumpler – Finishing slow time. Now have 8 swim teams practicing and holding swim meets until January 17<sup>th</sup>. Having our 1<sup>st</sup> "Swim with Santa" on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 6pm.

Kristin Sasser – Just held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Princess Tea last weekend, with 25 princesses! We were selected for the Track/Trail Grant and the signage is in. This is through the Blue Ridge Foundation – have different tracks/trails throughout the state. Ours is the mile loop around the park. We are hoping to do a ribbon cutting in the Spring, when it warms up.

Jon Moore – Youth soccer just wrapped up with 10 teams. Also had 54 soccer All-Star kids playing last weekend, and our 12u Boys team won State Tournament! Mens Softball, Volleyball and Football just wrapped up too.

Tiffany Pearson – Some current events going on include: Smithfield-Selma Youth Council getting underway, with No. Johnston & SSS. The first Pour It/Paint It session in October was a success, and another is coming up soon. The trip to the Fruitcake Factory in Bear Creek and Seagrove Pottery was another good trip for our Senior Club. The Matter of Balance Class (sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation) wrapped up not too long ago. The 1<sup>st</sup> Lego Workshop went great, and we are trying to plan another one. Gearing up for Christmas events.

Dale Ham – Healthway Silver Sneakers has been approved. Hopefully will be up and running within next two weeks. (BCBS Pathways already accepted.) We will get it in the town's newsletter when it is "official" .

Gary Johnson – Basketball drafts going on – over 200 kids in the program. Holding a Grinch Softball Tournament this weekend, with 18 Softball Teams. (They will be donating toys like the Grinch Run.)

At this time, Daniel Sanders reiterated his support of the project for Miracle League and Partnership for Children. Tim mentioned that in Johnston County alone, there are over 4,000 disabled kids in the school system. Hopefully the County will lend some support to the project too.

All upcoming information can be found on Facebook – Smithfield/SRAC and at SRACOnline.com.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Ashley