

**Smithfield  
Recreation Advisory Committee  
Meeting  
January 17, 2006**

The Smithfield Recreation Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 at 7:45 a.m. at White Swan. The following members were present:

Wallace Ashley	Wanda Crumley
Chris Howell	Earl Marett
Mike Wooten	Lynn Andrews

Members absent:	Ann Collier	Clayton Narron
	Clint Parrish	Angela Rabil
	Mike Stevens	

Staff present:	Tim Johnson, Director
	Gary Johnson, Senior Athletic Programs Supervisor
	Jon Moore, Athletic Programs Supervisor
	Laura Crumpler, Recreation/Special Events Coordinator
	Jan Ashley, Administrative Assistant

Staff absent:	Dennis Tyner, Maintenance Supervisor
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Opening the meeting, Director Tim Johnson welcomed Lynn Andrews to the Board, who is filling a vacancy on the Board.

*PROGRAM NEWS:*

Gary Johnson informed the group that Basketball has been underway since mid-November, and will continue through February. We have 36 teams using 2 basketball courts. Also, Fun & Fellowship Basketball gets underway this week with 9 teams. Gary noted that he's anticipating a slower summer at the Community Park, but that we will be hosting the Coach Pitch State Tournament in July, and possibly the Junior and Little League State Tournaments the following two weekends.

Jon Moore noted that Soccer registration begins today, and that Kinder Basketball would be in February.

Laura Crumpler noted that we were implementing a Johnston County Special Olympic Swim Team (8 kids). She also informed the group that the Daddy-Daughter Dance is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Medical Mall. The Dance has been moved from the Country Club because we needed more space. Senior Games will be held the end of April, first of May.

*COMMUNITY PARK UPDATE:*

Restroom Construction – Johnson said that some of the group may have noticed the construction at the front of the Community Park. The construction has been the new restroom shelter, and it should be complete within a few weeks. Johnson noted that more concrete has been poured, and that the new landscaping should look nice. We were trying to get this completed before the shelter use gets real heavy.

Resurfacing Courts – Johnson noted that we're still planning to resurface the basketball courts at the park, which is down to the asphalt. The tennis courts need some work too, and all of these should be done at the same time. Tim expecting quotes within week or two to take care of these issues.

Baseball fields / Backstop & Batting Cage Nets – Johnson added that we should be able to take care of these items without taking money from the general fund or P&R budget. (These would be repaired as part of the \$25,000 grant.)

Video Surveillance System – Still talking with ADT. Estimated cost is \$35,000. Director Johnson noted that he's planning to see if Town Council will help with this cost at the February meeting. Mike Wooten asked would we consider getting a Park Ranger / Security Officer once the new building is up and running. Mike expressed concerns that vandals would just destroy any cameras out there, or work around them. Earl Marett noted problems his agency has with their security cameras anytime storms come up. May need to consider a Security Officer once the building is constructed. (Costs would average around \$8.00 /hr. for this person.)

Soccer Fields – Chris Howell requested a port-a-john during soccer season close to Field #3 at the Community Park. He said the little ones don't have time to go as far as the port-a-johns near the picnic shelters. Tim said we could take care of that.

#### *COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE:*

Director Johnson said we've contracted with Capital Development (a fundraising company out of Raleigh) to assist in raising funds for the Community Center. Tim noted that they did the fundraising for the Heritage Center, and know many people in Johnston County. Director Johnson then outlined the proposed changes to current plans:

- 1) Raised seating in pool area. Makes pool areas bigger, but separates swimmers from spectators for swim meets;
- 2) A Play Pool. This can be described as a water playground, with water features in ankle deep water. They are becoming more and more popular. Great revenue maker too, for birthday parties, etc. In conjunction with this, would like to add warm-up/cool down lanes, which would be used for swim meets.
- 3) Lobby area. The lobby area definitely needs to be larger. Waynesville facility indicated that the lobby area was the most important part of the building. Definitely needs to be big enough to get people moved about. In conjunction with that, would like to put concession area, big enough to seat 50-60 people close by. Currently nothing like this in our facility plans.
- 4) Work out area. This needs to be more like Healthquest facility. School won't want public in same areas as school students.
- 5) More storage space.
- 6) Small childcare area.
- 7) Indoor open space over field house. Would like to see the space over the field house covered in indoor/outdoor carpeting. If we enclose this 5500 square feet, could be used for football, soccer, baseball, cheerleading to run drills during inclement weather. Anticipate it being used all the time.
- 8) Another office in our complex.
- 9) Larger reception area.

Mike Wooten asked if we had considered naming the facility after someone. Johnson noted that we have, but that the school system said they never name facilities after someone. If we have a big donor requesting this, it would have to be evaluated.

Director Johnson noted that in the Waynesville facility everything is named after donors. That facility has corporate donors, i.e. Pepsi, Wachovia, BB&T, etc.

Director Johnson noted that they'll be a Planning Committee and a Campaign Committee.

Estimated changes to the project total vary due to 1) a delay in selling bonds, and 2) initial drawings did not allow for inflation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:  
Jan Ashley,  
Administrative Assistant