

Sanford Parks Advisory Committee
Depot Park
106 Charlotte Ave, Sanford NC
April 17, 2023

Meeting Minutes

The following people were present

Bob Bridwell
Chad Spivey
Joni Martin
John Dean
Carson Wilson
Al Roethlisberger

Non-Voting Attendees

Nick Fortune
Kelli Laudate
Charles Taylor

Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by Chad Spivey.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Bob Bridwell to approve minutes from the last meeting, seconded by Joni Martin. Unanimously approved by the committee.

Administrator's Report

Nick Fortune gave an update on the Parks Master Plan. Right now McAdams is looking for about 10-15 people per committee or "focus group" for the three categories: economic development, special events and greenways. Nick suggested the need to put information out on the website to get more people involved. Bob Bridwell stated that trying to fill the spots in those three areas should not be difficult. John Dean stated that he had spoken with the executive director with the YMCA and interest was expressed to participate in the greenway extension. Bob suggested that Sanford Area Growth Alliance (SAGA) be involved and he stressed the importance of having representation from the minority communities. Focus group meeting dates should be set by next meeting.

Nick also gave an update on the Egg-a-palooza event. Even though it rained, there was a good turnout. Things were learned about what to change for next year including: need for larger outdoor space, keeping an indoor sensory area, and possible change of location. Kelli Laudate stated that it was such a great day and an excellent event. Bob stated that the kids in his neighborhood had a great time. Nick estimated there was about 2,500 eggs per age group, with the last group getting rained out.

Opening day of the splash pad is scheduled for 5/13 and will feature a live DJ, face painter, and food truck vendors. Mobile food vendors are now allowed in the parks and only one vendor has

taken advantage of setting up at Kiwanis Family Park so far. Two vendors are allowed to set up per day per park.

City Summer Concert Series will return for another year. Currently staff is still in the planning process. Still waiting on paperwork and finalizing the lineup. More details will be provided once finalized.

An equipment walk through was done recently at Depot Park after a power outage at previous event. Duke Energy found disconnected circuits and have since repaired them. A battery backup system will be installed before the first spring concert to assist with future power failures. A fridge has also been installed at Depot Park for entertainment use.

Old Business

Nick gave an update on the rails to trails program from last meeting. A letter was requested from the Mayor in regards to interest in the HWY 42 rail corridor be sent to North Carolina Department of Transportation. A letter from the Mayor was presented for the committee to read. The letter will be forwarded to NCDOT. Currently trying to find grant opportunities to assist with the costs.

New Business

Joni suggested playing music at Depot Park on Fridays between 11am – 1pm. Discussion amongst the committee in regards to what type of music or how to stream music. Everyone was in agreement it was a great idea and some commented they are looking forward to hearing music at lunch time.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held May 15th in the West End Conference Room at City Hall.

Comments

None.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn at 4:57pm, unanimously approved by the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest:



Nick Fortune, Clerk



Chad Spivey, Chairman