



The Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in the Johnson Room at the Hilton Charlotte Center City located at 222 E. Third Street, Charlotte, NC on November 11, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

PRC Minutes

November 11, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Present:

- Brad Pearce – Chair**
- Owen Furueth – Vice Chair**
- John Barry – Exec. Secretary**
- Robert Brisley**
- Scott McClure**
- Brenda McMoore**
- Beverly Lawston**
- Jeff Tarte**
- Joe Pata**
- Jim Garges**
- Dot Law**

Absent: **Michael Noble**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Brad Pearce.

Bond Campaign Recap: Chair Brad Pearce asked Commissioner McClure to give a recap of the recent park bond campaign victory.

Commissioner McClure shared a Mecklenburg County Map, divided by precincts and color coded to show the precincts that passed the bonds and those that did not. He also shared what he felt were some key factors leading to a successful campaign such as endorsement by the black political caucus, the willingness of BOCC Chair, Jennifer Roberts, to let her pole workers hand out our park bond project literature and Democratic Party personnel to also hand out our literature.

Director Garges expressed his appreciation to all PRC members for their efforts in getting the bond passed. He noted that the number one job of the Park and Recreation Commission was to be strong advocates for the Department and all the work that was done leading up to the vote helped put us over the top.

Commissioner McClure suggested that Strategic Planning and Long Range Finance Committee look into how to improve the preparedness of future Park Commissioners for bond campaigns possibly including the development of joint relationships with various civic organizations.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

(1) **Introductions**
None

(2) **Proclamations and Awards**
None

(3) **Public Appearance**
None

(4) **Program Presentations:**
None

(5) **Appointments –Advisory Councils – Applicants**

- a. **EPD:** *Motion was made by Commissioner Brisley to appoint Carolyn Millen to and unexpired vacancy, expiring 6/2010 and to appoint Thomas Bagger to an unexpired term, expiring 6/2011, which was seconded by Commissioner Tarte and approved unanimously.*
- b. **Stewardship:** *Motion was made by Commissioner McClure to appoint Bernadette Anne Stephens to an expired vacancy, expiring 6/2011, which was seconded by Commissioner Brisley and approved unanimously.*

(6) **Public Hearings**
None

(7) **Advisory Council – Committee Reports**
None

(8) **Director's Report**

In addition to the items covered in the written Director's Report included in the agenda packet, Director Jim Garges discussed the following:

NCRPA Conference: Jim thanked Greg Jackson and the many other staff members who are and have been working on the NCRPA Conference. They have done an outstanding job as supported by the many compliments received on the success of the conference. The awards luncheon was kicked off by BOCC Chair, Jennifer Roberts, who talked about the importance of

Park and Recreation. Michael Kirschman, Division Director of Nature Preserves and Natural Resources, and members of his staff received an innovation award for the development of a two-day Physical Education Teacher In-Service that introduced teachers to non-traditional physical education activities and can be conducted at their schools or area parks, greenways or nature preserves.

(9) **PRC Chair Report**
None

(10-12) **Consent Items**

Motion was made by Commissioner McClure to approve all consent items, including the October minutes of the PRC meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Barry and approved unanimously.

Staff Reports and Requests

(13) **Julie Clark/Steve Law: Greenway Land Acquisition Study Group: Assessment of Proposed Procedures**

Julie Clark, Division Director of Greenway Planning and Development, recapped that at the October, 2008 PRC meeting, she and Tom Cox presented to and provided the Board with a copy of the Greenway Land Acquisition Study Group report and findings for their review. As a result of the PRC's request for a cost analysis and the implications of implementing the changes recommended by the study, it was determined that a presentation on the process used by the County for Greenway Land Acquisition to the PRC was in order.

Steve Law of Real Estate Services made a presentation to the Park and Recreation Commissioners explaining the process used by the county for Greenway Land Acquisition including: Initial Landowner Contact, Soft "C" Letter, Notice of Intent to Condemn, and Filing of Condemnation Suit. The process was explained verbally and graphically with a flow chart of the process. (**Note:** This flow chart, corresponding notes and the final report of the Greenway Study Group are included in the PRC Minute's Binder housed in the Director's office.

Following discussion, the motion was made by Commissioner Scott McClure:

Motion was made by Commissioner Scott McClure that the Park and Recreation Commission endorse the activities and the recommendations of the Greenway Land Acquisition Study Group to be communicated at the earliest possible opportunity to the Board of County Commissioners, which was seconded by Commissioner John Barry and approved unanimously.

Park Commissioners Reports and Requests
None

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss a motion was made by Commissioner Otey to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m., which was seconded by Commissioner McClure and approved unanimously.