



The Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met at the Administrative Office Building, located at 5841 Brookshire Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28216 on June 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

**PRC MINUTES
June 9, 2010**

ATTENDANCE

Present: Rob Brisley
Charlie McRee
Owen Furuseth
Brad Pearce, Chair
Beverly Lawston
Paul Bailey
John Barry
Norman Mitchell
David Morgan

Jim Garges

Absent Ed Barnhart – Business
Scott McClure
Brenda McMoore
Jeff Tarte

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Brad Pearce, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Commissioner McRee.

Welcome and Introductions:

Proclamations and Awards

Director Garges recognized and presented awards to the following PRC members whose terms are complete or that have resigned from the Board:

- Brad Pearce – Terms Complete – Glass Bowl
- Scott McClure – Terms Complete – Glass Bowl - Not Present
- John Barry – Resignation – Crystal Award
- David Morgan – Resignation – Crystal Award
- Owen Furuseth – Resignation – Crystal Award

Jim said that even though these members are leaving the Board, they are not leaving their advocacy, they take it with them.

Public Appearance – Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission

Chair Brad Pearce introduced Alice Battle, vice-chair of the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission, to speak to the Commission about the proposed Lake Management Plan.

Ms. Battle explained that the Mountain Island Lake Marine Commission (MILMC) has been working on a Lake Management Plan for Mountain Island Lake (MIL) since 2004. Their purpose, as stated in the “draft” plan, is:

“..to preserve and protect water quality, to preserve and protect property, to preserve and protect wildlife, and to protect and promote public safety..”

One aspect of the proposed plan is to require a permit to limit the size of boats on MIL, 22 ft for single hull boats and 16 ft for pontoons. Kayaks, canoes and trolling motors would not require a permit. Ms. Battle went on to explain issues related to the lake size and depth, sediment concerns caused by development and boats, lake accident reporting and erosion issues. Director Garges inquired as to MILMC’s legal authority, approval process and Wildlife Division support. Ms. Battle responded that the MILMC did have legal authority to seek permitting, but it would have to be approved by the County Commission Boards and would have to go through the legislature since the Wildlife Division did not support or approve of the permit proposal. Director Garges said that it would be good to continue dialogue with the MILMC on this subject and to support the Marine Commission on lake and environmental issues but it would not be appropriate for the PRC to take action on the permitting proposal.

Following discussion: ***Motion was made*** by Commissioner Brisley to accept Alice Battle’s report as information and to take no action unless the BOCC ask for input, which was seconded by Commissioner Barry and approved unanimously.

(Note: The draft Lake Management Plan is included in the June, 2010 PRC Minute’s Binder, **Section 3**, housed in the Directors office.)

Program Presentation - NONE

Appointments –Advisory Councils – Applicants

Aquatics

Motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to reappoint the following Aquatic Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner David Morgan and approved unanimously:

- *Shawn Meachum* *1st Full Term*
- *Daniel Medvid* *2nd Full Term*
- *Sandra Calhoun* *1st Full Term*
- *Ginny Woolard* *1st Full Term*
- *Diane Dunn* *2nd Full Term*
- *Jerry Clark* *2nd Full Term*

CPD I

Motion was made by Commissioner Lawston to appoint **Bomani McLaughlin** to an unexpired term on the Central Park District I Advisory Council, expiring 6/2011, which was seconded by Commissioner Brisley and approved unanimously.

CPD II

In the absence of Commissioner McMoore, CPD II, reappointments were deferred to the August 10, 2010 PRC meeting.

CPD III

Motion was made by Commissioner McRee to reappoint the following CPD III Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously:

- Beth Poovey 2nd Full Term
- Thomas Marshall 2nd Full Term

EPD

Motion was made by Commissioner Brisley to reappoint the following EPD Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner Barry and approved unanimously:

- Roger Raymer 2nd Full Term
- Carolyn Miller 1st Full Term

Greenway

In the absence of Commissioner Barnhart , PRC Chair of the Greenway Advisory Council, reappointments were deferred to the August 10, 2010 PRC meeting.

NPD

In the absence of Commissioner Tarte, North Park District, reappointments were deferred to the August 10, 2010 PRC meeting.

NEPD

Motion was made by Commissioner Furuseth to appoint **Jessica White** to an unexpired term on the Northeast Park District Advisory Council, expiring 6/2011, which was seconded by Commissioner Brisley and approved unanimously.

Soccer

Motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to reappoint the following Soccer Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner David Morgan and approved unanimously:

- Oscar del Pino 1st Full Term
- Don Wilson 2nd Full Term
- Frank Jonas 2nd Full Term

SPD

In the absence of Commissioner Barnhart, South Park District, reappointments were deferred to the August 10, 2010 PRC meeting.

Stewardship

Motion was made by Commissioner David Morgan to reappoint the following Stewardship Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner McRee, and approved unanimously:

- Andrea Cook 1st Full Term
- Ernest McLaney 2nd Full Term
- Amber Veverka 1st Full Term

SWPD

Motion was made by Commissioner Barry to reappoint the following Southwest Park District Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and approved unanimously:

- Betty McGill 2nd Full Term

Therapeutic

Motion was made by Commissioner David Morgan to reappoint the following Therapeutic Advisory Council members to new terms expiring 6/2013, which was seconded by Commissioner Furuseth and approved unanimously:

- Christine Cade-Meade 1st Full Term
- Shannon Burns 1st Full Term

Director's Report – Jim Garges

RFBA Re: Amendment of the Resolution Restructuring the Park and Recreation

Commission: Director Garges told the Board that the Departments had an RFBA on the June 15, 2010 BOCC agenda to approve the amendment to the Resolution Restructuring the Park and Recreation Commission as discussed at the May, 2010 PRC meeting. The RFBA request approval to modify the PRC representation from nine members representing 9 park districts to 3 members in each of the 3 new park regions; North, South and Central. Future PRC applicants will be appointed with geographic balance within predetermined areas of each region. In addition it request that the current district advisory councils be combined to form 1 regional council in each of the regions.

(NOTE: The map showing the 3 regions and the sub-divisions for balanced appointment is included in the June PRC Minute's Binder, **Section 11h**, housed in the Director's office.)

Once the RFBA has been approved, the process of filling PRC vacancies can begin.

PRC Applications: Director Garges said Janice Paige, Clerk to the Board, has several applications for the PRC that will be placed on the July 6, BOCC agenda for nomination. They will then make appointments at the August 3, BOCC meeting. Jim suggested that once these applications have been slated for nomination, it would be good for the PRC to review them and advocate for applicants they feel will be good PRC members. The applications will be sent to the PRC once they have been approved for nomination. Jim suggested the Board look for potential PRC applicants among our advisory council members and to also seek younger members as well.

Advisory Council Restructuring: Director Garges advised the Board that once the amendment to the resolution is approved and the PRC vacancies are filled, changes to the district advisory councils can proceed. The district councils will need to combine to form 1 regional council in each of the three regions; North, South, Central. (Special councils - golf, soccer, greenway, stewardship, etc. - will not change.) A letter will need to go out from the Department to each of the advisory council members to explain the change in structure to the PRC and the park districts and communicate the new council PRC liaison and meeting dates and location.

BOCC Straw Vote Budget Meeting – June 3: Director Garges reported that at the June 3 straw vote budget meeting the Board was able to add back slightly over \$13 million to the budget due to a revised sales tax revenue projection, a tax increase for unincorporated areas and technical adjustments to the recommended budget. It was decided that CMS would receive an additional \$6 million, the Libraries an additional \$3.5 million and an additional \$1.18 million for Park and Recreation. Jim said that Commissioner Bentley made several budget reduction recommendations in order to add back more money for Park and Recreation but was not supported; a strong indication that there was not recognition on the Boards part (other than Commissioner Bentley) of the importance and the essential nature of what Park and Recreation does. Jim urged the PRC to call the County Commissioners and advocate for a fair distribution equal to the Libraries of \$3.5 million to Park and Recreation.

Commissioner Lawston asked how the money would be spent should the Department receive an additional \$3.5 million. Director Garges responded that \$3.5 million would help with bringing back some of the following: (1) staff in Community Recreation to provide direct programs for seniors, adults and youth, (2) Natural Resources staff, (3) some Park Watch and (4) some park maintenance staff. In addition the Department would need to get money back for temporary staff and for the operating budget, which was cut by 57% on the non-personnel side.

Chair Pearce expressed deep concern over the impact the budget cuts will have on the Department and urged the PRC to call the County Commissioners and express their concern.

Commissioner Mitchell inquired about the NACo Awards. Director Garges said the Department would receive 5 of the 11 awarded to Mecklenburg County:

- Community Gardens
- Naturally Home Schooled
- Water Park Halloween
- Camp Charity
- Adaptive Kayaking

PRC Chair Report

PRC FY2011 Officers: ***Motion was made*** by Commissioner John Barry to approved the slate of new officers for FY2011 (July 2010 – June 2011) of:

- Commissioner Rob Brisley – Chair*
- Commissioner Beverly Lawston – Vice-Chair*
- Commissioner Charlie McRee – Executive Secretary*

Which was seconded by Commissioner David Morgan and approved unanimously

Consent Items:

***Motion was made** by Commissioner John Barry to approve all consent items, including the May 11, 2010 PRC Minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner David Morgan and approved unanimously.*

Staff Reports and Requests

(13) 521 Recreation Center Renaming – 3rd Reading: Director Garges said that the third reading was being brought before the PRC to rename the 521 recreation center to Elon Recreation Center. The South District Advisory Council Chairman, Park and Recreation Commissioner Ed Barnhart, submitted the naming application to rename 521 to align the name of the facility with the park name, which is Elon Park, and the new school, Elon Elementary School.

(**Note:** The memo to the BOCC alerting them of the upcoming renaming request, the South District Advisory Council minutes for March 2010 and April 2010 and the naming application submitted by Commissioner Ed Barnhart are included in the June 9, 2010 PRC Minute's binder, **Section 13, 13a – 13d**, housed in the Director's office.)

***Motion was made** by Commissioner Barry to endorse and recommend to the BOCC the renaming of 521 Recreation Center to Elon Recreation Center, which was seconded by Commissioner David Morgan and approved unanimously.*

Park Commissioners Reports and Requests

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.