

**Matthews Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources  
Advisory Committee  
February 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present: Howie Labiner, Harvey Boyd, Gretchen Reid, Mary Ciminelli, Sandi Lee, Dawn Reid, John Estes

Committee Members Absent: Bob Evans, Matthew Loof

Staff Members Present: Lee Anne Moore, Michelle Savago

Co-Chairman Gretchen Reid called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.

January minutes were unanimously approved.

**Public Comment**

- Martha Krauss (HAWK member) - In 2014, Matthews was designated Bee City USA and Martha is submitting an application for renewal of that title. HAWK is looking for more subcommittee members that would be able to assist in this process. She has also suggested a webpage on the Town website.
  - Howie suggested having a pollination project incorporated into the various park projects that will be going on at Purser-Hulsey Park, come spring. Possibly as part of the new Community Garden location.
  - John said that one negative of having a pollination project is attracting the bees to an area that the public would be utilizing.

**Cultural Report- Colten Marble**

- Programs/Activities
  - February gallery display: Cynthia Howard and Students. Cynthia teaches oil painting classes at the McDowell Arts Center on Mondays and Thursdays; this is the annual display of her and her students' work. Reception on Sunday, February 12th from 1pm – 5pm.
  - Matthews Playhouse -- Upcoming Productions: Will Rogers Follies (February 3 - 12), The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe (February 24 – March 3)
  - Matthews Concert Band – Next performance is March 9th.
  - Summer Camp registration is now open!! Registration started at 12:01am on February 1st, the first registration was at 12:18am. We have 52 different camps to choose from; when you include the camps being offered multiple weeks, there are a total of 89 camp options offered by our Department this summer. Camps are available at the Matthews Community Center, Crews Recreation Center, the McDowell Arts Center, and Squirrel Lake Park.

- Job Openings:
  - Cultural Center Attendants and Seasonal Recreation Leaders positions: Application window open until 2/17/17.
    - Cultural Center Attendant: PT Staff at the Matthews Community Center and the McDowell Arts Center; Average of 19 hours per week, which can fluctuate based on the employee's availability and desired schedule.
    - Seasonal Recreation Leader: Summer Camp Staff at Camp FUNshine and at Crews Recreation Center. FUNshine staff works 40 hours per week for 8 weeks of camp. Crews camp staff has the potential for a more flexible schedule, but camps run 9am – 5pm on Monday – Friday so there are still plenty of hours available.
  - Summer Intern: Application window open until position filled.
    - **Qualifications:** All prospective interns must be students majoring in Parks and Recreation or a related field. Candidates are required to submit a letter verifying their status as an actively enrolled student. A valid driver's license is required. Successful applicants should have experience using computers, specifically Microsoft Windows applications. This position requires working weekends and some Holidays.
    - **Description:** Interns will work in each of the following areas: designing and implementing activities for summer camps, assisting with arts and craft programs, assisting with special event planning and implementation, athletic programming, youth athletic skill development, creating promotional material for programs /special events, program evaluation, completing daily/weekly tasks within the department, working with private businesses, neighboring municipal organizations and other departments within the Town of Matthews, and attending meetings with our local advisory committee.
    - **How to Apply:** Submit a resume and application letter explaining what the student hopes to accomplish and what their school requires for them to complete during the internship. Letters should be submitted as soon as possible via mail or email (as an attachment) to [cmarble@matthewsnc.gov](mailto:cmarble@matthewsnc.gov). Interview schedules will be established as inquiries are received.
  - If you know of someone that would be a positive addition to our team, for any of these position tell them to apply! Applications are online at [MatthewsNC.gov](http://MatthewsNC.gov) or they can visit Town Hall to apply in person.

#### **Athletics Report- Charles Smith**

- Programs/Activities
  - Crews Family Night
    - February 3, 2017 - last event until October 2017; Partnered with SuperKicks of South Charlotte (provided a self-defense/martial arts demonstration for families)
  - Date Night Drop-Off
    - 35 youth participated in the event on Friday, January 13th. The next Date Night Drop-Off is scheduled for Friday, February 10th.

- Adult Basketball League
  - We are in the brainstorming process of starting an adult basketball league; More information to follow in the coming weeks/months.
- Crews Summer Camps
  - In addition to our traditional summer camps (i.e. Gymstars, Muggsy Boagues Basketball, Half Day Sport Camps, Discovery Place and Fencing Camp) we are offering a new engineering LEGO® Camp in partnership with Play-Well.
  - All camps are currently open for registration on ActiveNet.
- Special Events
  - Father-Daughter Dance – Saturday, February 11th. 4-7pm

#### **Parks Report- Scott Rawls**

- Community Gardens
  - Reapplication information is sent to current plot-owners by February 1, 2017
  - Deadline to reapply is March 1, 2017
  - Spring Workday – April 1, 2017
  - Contact Scott Rawls about plot rentals – [srawls@matthewsnc.gov](mailto:srawls@matthewsnc.gov) – 704-708-1288

#### **Special Event Report- Lee Anne Moore**

- Food Truck Fridays
  - Events are being advertised now, since approval came from Council for the new craft beer pavilion. To be held twice per month, March through September.
  - Adding kids' inflatable interactives, adult Jenga and corn hole. Better/larger bands each event—bands have been selected. Truck selections have been made. Harris Teeter coming back as Presenting Sponsor, Charlotte Metro Credit Union coming back as Associate Sponsor. Hoping to also have Novant as an Associate. Press release about the series going out this week.
- Father Daughter Dance preparations moving forward, has already sold out.
- BeachFest
  - Seven exhibitors/sponsors have signed on, with Novant returning as Presenting Sponsor. Have reached out to Scott Clark for sponsorship of the car show again this year. Press release announcing bands and recruiting exhibitors goes out this week.

#### **Director's Report- Corey King**

- Purser – Hulsey Park: A conceptual illustration reflecting the ideas discussed last month will be sent to you very soon. There will be 3 versions. The dog park and tennis courts were debated during the meeting, so Corey asked the firm we are working with, to show 3 options. Version A will have all items reflected, version B without tennis courts, version C without a dog park. Cost estimates will be included for each version.
- The public meeting regarding John Street improvements was relatively well attended. Corey will let the committee know the results when they are shared.
- Planning for Rice Road Park is progressing well. We are on schedule to have the documents prepared and ready for bidding the project by July in Corey's estimation.
- Sportsplex construction is winding down. Phase 2 areas are being used by the public. This committee will be invited to the Grand Opening on June 12. Details (time and activities) are still being confirmed.

- Charlotte Independence announced their move to the Matthews Sportsplex. A plan to include the additional 1,300 seats to reach 4,000 in the stadium is still being developed.
- Comments:
  - Howie- Alternative name for Rice Road Park: A thought to bring a suggestion to Town Council possibly renaming the park after Harvey's parents; Viola & Sam Boyd. Howie also offered to ask Paula Lester if she has any suggestions for the park name.
    - Possibly Miriam Hood's family?
  - Gretchen- Gretchen suggested that the department Facebook page publish a "Did You Know?" campaign about various subjects such as the art on the greenway and the Recreation Center. She also suggested holding a greenway photography contest.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm