

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
PHIL BAZEMORE ACTIVE ADULT CENTER
500 W. JEFFERSON STREET
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024
6:00PM**

AGENDA

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- Item 1.** Approval of Minutes – June 18, 2024
- Item 2.** Initial Pickleball Court Design Discussion
- Item 3.** Visit Waxhaw Sk8 Park
- Item 4.** Other Business

ATTENTION COMMISSION MEMBERS: Please contact Angie Sustar at asustar@monroenc.org or 704-282-4651 to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 18, 2024
MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in the Phil Bazemore Active Adult Center, 500 W. Jefferson Street, Monroe, North Carolina at 6:00PM on June 18, 2024.

Members Present: Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee, Debbie Dillion

Members Absent: John Thomasson

Staff Present: Ryan Jones, Tyson Carrier, Darren Baucom, Kellie Corcoran-Walters, Aleshia Holland, Thomas Latimer and Angie Sustar

Visitors: Dr. Joe Milner and Lisa Hollowell

Chairman/Council Member McGee called the meeting to order at 6:05PM and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes from April 16, 2024 and May 21, 2024

Motion: Member Dillion moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2024 and May 21, 2024 meetings.

Second: Chairman/Council Member McGee

Action: The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Member Dillion and Chairman/Council Member McGee

NAYS: None

Item No. 2. Skate Park Discussion

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones stated that at the last meeting there had been an expressed interest in a skate park. Mr. Jones advised that an interest might exist with for a skate park in the community. He has noticed individuals skating near the science museum and there is a skate shop located nearby. Mr. Jones would like to gauge the interest and have open dialogue to take steps needed to pursue this. Mr. Jones advised that Waxhaw has a skate park pump track and if the commission would like, he would reach out to the director for information and coordinate a visit.

Member Dillion expressed concern of noise from the park to nearby homes.

Discussion followed.

Chairman/Council Member McGee mentioned that the Dickerson Community Center maybe a good location for a pump track and a skate park in the downtown area.

Mr. Jones shared that many of the pump track skate parks are in one complex. Mr. Jones described the difference in the pump track and skate park. He advised that Dickerson Park is a Land Water

Conservation Fund (LWCF) park that is eligible for grant funding as well as Creft Park and a portion of Sutton Park. He advised that LWCF only allows grant funding for outdoor activities and shared additional stipulations related to requirements.

Item No. 3. Divisional Program Updates (MAFC, Parks Maintenance, Recreation, Active Adult Center)

Athletics: Mr. Jones provided a brief update on youth athletic programs currently underway.

- Skills and Drills baseball camp going on this week. This camp allows athletes to sharpen their skills through intensive sessions.
- Skills and Drills basketball camp is scheduled for July.
- Track and Field season has wrapped up and the end of season banquet will be in May.
- Flag Football registration runs until June 30th.
- Kenny Gattison basketball clinics take place next week at Dickerson and Winchester Community Centers.

Special Events: Mr. Jones provided a brief update of upcoming Special Events.

- Juneteenth event took place on Saturday, June 15th at Belk Tonawanda Park.
- Latin Festival is scheduled for June 23rd at Downtown Monroe

Parks Maintenance: Mr. Jones provided an update on projects that are currently underway. He advised that grass-mowing season is in full force. Mr. Jones commended the parks maintenance staff for their assistance at the Juneteenth event and for all they do to maintain the parks.

Member Dillion asked for a status update on the Sunset Park restroom project. Mr. Jones advised that concrete for connecting sidewalks is being poured this week and installation of the Control-Link automatic door locking system is scheduled for mid-July.

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center:

MAFC Superintendent Kellie Corcoran-Walters provided an update on programs currently underway including:

- Staff Appreciation Pool Party is Friday, June 21st. The facility will close at 5:00PM.
- Summer Day Camp is underway and runs until August 16th.
- Swim Lesson Session 1 is underway.
- Outdoor Lap Swimming at the Water Park occurs on Fridays from 8:00 – 9:30AM. This time is reserved for lap swimmers only. Swim at your own pace or utilize our “coach” we will have during this time for those who are looking for a more challenging workout.
- American Red Cross Blood mobile is today.
- Union County Public Schools mobile book bus is scheduled at the facility Wednesday, June 19th from 1:00 – 2:00PM.
- We are celebrating International Yoga Day outside at the water park on June 21st 8:30 – 9:20AM.
- Kenny Gattison Basketball Camp was a huge success.
- Staff delivered over 150 purses to Turning Point of Monroe, a women and children’s shelter, in support of “Purses with a Purpose”. The purses, filled with personal care items, toiletries, feminine hygiene products, and other necessities, are distributed to women in need and survivors of domestic violence.
- The Coffee Nut opens mid-September. This partnership with UCPS vocational training provides

an opportunity for student to gain life skills.

- We have extended volleyball hours to Thursdays from 5:00– 9:00PM in Gymnasium Court B. (MAFC members age 14 & older)

Active Adult Center:

Bazemore Active Adult Center Supervisor Aleshia Holland provided an update of programs currently underway:

- Held a successful BAAC one-year anniversary celebration on June 6th
- Alzheimer's awareness month special event "Walk" at BAAC - June 21st at 10:00AM
- Living Healthy with Chronic Conditions is a six-week class beginning July 10th
- Scam Jam event hosted by BAAC mid-October
- Applying for SCOPE certification. Senior Center Operation Program Evaluation certification is a state certification.
- Extended trip to Savannah, GA - May 28th – 30th

Recreation Updates:

Community Center Supervisor Thomas Latimer provided an update of programs currently offered:

- Cane Creek Park Cook-Out Field Trip – All centers have participants involved.
- ACE Academy - the week of June 24th
- Music Camp - June 25th, 26th, & 28th
- Back to School Bash – July 27th

Winchester Community Center

- Health is Wealth mini camp
- Cheer Camp – mini camp
- Softball Camp

Old Armory Community Center

- Cooking with Love mini camp
- Making Music by Back Spinz

Dickerson Community Center

- Summer Camp Day Camp -

J Ray Shute Community Center

- Block Party – Fun Day at J Ray July 13th

Sutton Park Community Center

- Day Camp – No charge – Daily

Item No. 4. New Initiatives

Mr. Jones provided an update on several items as a follow up to ideas shared by members for new projects and initiatives.

Innovation Initiatives:

- QR codes at picnic shelters – CivicRec/Rec1 is not connecting the code to the correct location. They are aware of the issue and technicians are working on a solution. Once this issue rectified, QR codes can be posted at each picnic shelter to allow visitors to check the availability and receive information for shelter rental.
- Check-in process improvements for community centers

Conservation:

- Public Tree Ordinance will go to the General Services Committee in July.

Training and Safety:

- To ensure the safety of children at the Winchester pool; any child under 14 years-old must be accompanied by a parent/adult.

Item No. 5. Other Business

Chairman/Council Member McGee requested an update on streamlining the hiring process of part-time employees through Human Resources. Mr. Jones provided an update on the process.

Mr. Jones advised that Council approved the FY'25 budget, expressed his appreciation, and provided an update on several large items.

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness:

- Building improvements at MAFC to complete Phase II the final phase of the renovation
- New flooring, interior painting, and décor in the Child Care area
- Roof replacement over the fitness room
- Treadmill replacements
- Water Heater
- Ford Ranger

Recreation Division:

- Installation of pickleball courts
- Gymnasium floor replacement at community centers
- Gymnasium basketball goals and backboards replacement at community centers
- Gymnasium bleachers replacement at Winchester
- General floor replacement at community centers (lobby and classrooms)
- Window tinting at community centers
- Weight room floor replacement at Dickerson
- Painting of murals at community centers to honor the historical significance the community
- Remodeling of the solarium at Winchester
- Recreation Coordinator position to assist with athletics and special events
- Facility Maintenance Worker II for Parks Maintenance

Ms. Hollowell asked what the process for selecting locations for pickleball courts was.

Mr. Jones advised that it's based on the footprint that exists at a park. It is feasible and more cost effective to place it in that location. Currently, we are utilizing nine pickleball courts: three indoor at Winchester and six outdoor at Dickerson.

Mr. Jones announced the organizational changes taking place in the Parks and Recreation Department and the new Property Management Department. He advised that parks maintenance, facilities maintenance, and landscaping will move under the Property Management Department and he will transition as the Property Management Department Director.

Ms. Hollowell stated that this was one of the highest priorities of the City Manager's office and we're so glad that we have Ryan leading it. It's no easy task to stand up this new Property Management Department; there's a lot of coordination from the whole city. Getting all these contracts in one place to see how much we're spending how we're doing preventative maintenance, and coordinating new construction projects is going to be very helpful. Having meaningful coordination is something that has never happened. We appreciate what the Council did in allowing that to happen.

Chairman/Council Member McGee asked if this would take effect July 1. Ms. Hollowell advised that there would be a transition period.

Chairman/Council Member McGee asked do they know who would be the interim Parks and Recreation director. Ms. Hollowell advised not at this time.

There being no further business, Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Chairman / Council Member McGee

Action: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Member Dillion and Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:12PM