



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commission Chair Dennis Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- Commission members present: Sandy Barth, Dana Davis, Kevin Johnson, Melissa Jurgens, Dennis Mitchell, Cheryl Rand, Jit Saha
- Commission absent: Shuntel Beach, Scott Doll
- City staff present: Department Director Morgan Rodgers, Wills Park Manager Matt Casey, Project Manager Kurt Kirby, Park Services Manager Eric Milley, Community Services Manager Amanda Musilli, Cultural Services Manager Kim Zane, Administrative Assistant II Amy Rickman
- City Council:

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 13, 2019

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to approve the minutes of August 13, 2019 as written.
Second by Jit Saha.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Approval for recommendation for creation of Cultural Arts Commission

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to recommend to Council to form a Cultural Arts Commission, with final guidelines to be developed by staff upon approval. Second by Kevin Johnson.
- Discussion – Cheryl raised concern regarding if it will be challenging to keep active members on another commission. Morgan stated that Council gave direction to start process for formation of a Cultural Arts Commission.
- **All in favor. Motion carried.** Morgan will keep commission updated on process.
- Approval of new name for park on Windward Parkway
 - Motion by Jit Saha to approve a new name for the park on Windward Parkway as Windward Community Park. Second by Dana Davis.
 - Discussion – Morgan clarified that parks are normally named after the road on which to access. However, the name Windward Park already exists as a business area, so another name had to be selected for the actual park.
 - **All in favor. Motion carried**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- None

VII. REPORTS

A. Divisions:

1. Recreation Services – Christine Young (via video)

- Fall recreational programs began last week
- Aquatics: Pool is officially closed for the season; successful season; end of year final numbers will be coming soon
- Athletics: Ambush Soccer season now open; 20th anniversary celebration at Webb Bridge Park on Sept 22, 5pm-8pm
- Adult Activity Center: Former woodshop is now an activity room; next area for improvements will be new flooring in stained glass workshop
- Exceptional Population:
 - 2020 North Fulton Special Needs Services and Expo – TBA – Feb date; gives opportunity to reach families through schools; more info to come
 - BrewAble Café is officially open at the Alpharetta Community Center
- Upcoming Recreation Events:
 - 21st Annual Touch-a-Truck, Sat, Sept 14, North Point Mall
 - IronKids Triathlon, Sun, Sept 15, Wills Park and Pool
 - Drool in the Pool, Sun, Sept 29, Wills Park Pool

2. Wills Park and Equestrian Center – Matt Casey

- Equestrian Center:
 - Event-driven month with several outstanding, large horseshows
 - Daily maintenance operations will be temporarily housed in Barn G
 - Equipment housed there while new maintenance structure is erected
 - Allows for removal of old maintenance structure at current site
 - Equestrian Foundation requested acceleration of maintenance barn removal to signal action to community and assist with fundraising efforts
- Wills Park – current projects:
 - Exterior painting of concession stands, restrooms (lower, upper fields) scheduled to begin this week
 - Natural trail being developed by park crew to promote connectivity from community center to dog park where goats cleared underbrush; will activate about 2 acres of unused park land along Old Milton Parkway; will link up to the paved trails already in the park; beautiful mature trees in this area including a huge pine tree

3. **Cultural Services – Kim Zane**

- Upcoming Cultural Happenings:
 - *Southern Summer Exhibit*, thru Sept 27, Arts Center
 - *Is This Art?* Alpharetta Art Guild lecture, Sept 9, Arts Center
 - *Rio Negro*, Latin Jazz Pop Up Series, Sept 13, 8pm Ole Milton Park
 - *Evening of Music* with Alpharetta Chamber Orchestra, Sept 14, 6pm open, 7pm music, Arts Center Black Box, tickets \$25
 - *Big the Musical*, by ACT1, Sept 13, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, ACT1 Theater
 - *Meeting Landscape and Lights*, Sept 18, 6:30pm, Arts Center, by Georgia Nature Photographers Association
 - *Fossil Talk* with Mike Buchanan, Sept 18, 6:30pm, City Hall
 - *How North Fulton Residents Influences Aviation*, Sept 19, Mansell House Alpharetta and Old Milton Historical Society program
 - *Alpharetta's Music at Twilight*, Sept 20, 8:30pm, Downtown
 - Refer to September 2019 full calendar for all *Local Happenings*
- Marketing for Cultural Services:
 - NEW... local happenings monthly calendar
 - Online Cultural Calendar, partnering with Alpharetta CVB
 - Website, Cultural Services page, work in progress
- Arts Center:
 - Play Me Again Piano unveiled on terrace at Arts Center
- Special Needs:
 - TRAP rhythmic drumming programing begins in October
 - Special Needs Program grant application is being reviewed by legal; will be duplicating application for another grant on the arts side
- Music / AMPS (Alpharetta Music Project Strategy):
 - Details of program sent out to Alpharetta restaurants and businesses

- Funding match up to \$350 for music in smaller, intimate settings
- Music Match Program will be held Sept-Nov with 16 fall music shows
- ACVB will continue grant funding for shows during winter months
- History Update:
 - *Saving Farm House*, documentary film released at City Hall, being shown to targeted community groups; will be posted on city website in October
 - Telephone Building, historical marker of first telephone call in Alpharetta
- Public Art / Sculptures:
 - *Omnium Gatherum Exhibit*, awaiting final location approval from Council; proposed to extend exhibit to Wills Park and Alpha Loop

4. Park Services – Eric Milley

- Webb Bridge Park:
 - Replaced wooden boards with lighter steel on pedestrian bridge at entry
 - Drainage work along roadway, parking lots
 - Installation of metal ‘flowers’ at entry to Webb Zone Playground
- North Park:
 - Adult Activity Center, exterior painting of building

5. Community Services – Amanda Musilli

- Alpharetta Special Events:
 - Mayor’s Corporate Challenge recap; approximately 1500 attendees
 - Grilling & Gridiron, Sept 14
 - European Market, Sept 21-22
 - Brew Moon, Sept 28
 - Scarecrow Harvest, Oct 5
 - Family and school entries for free, business entries for fee
 - Sponsorships sold; larger installations and walk-in photo areas
 - Length of time for display has been reduced this year
 - Wire & Wood Songwriters Festival, Oct 11-12
- Marketing:
 - Development of Social Media Field Team
 - Responsibility for managing and replying to 16 social media channels
 - Idea to develop team; offered training on best practices; empowered staff to post happenings now; makes postings more social and spontaneous
- Alpharetta Community Agriculture:
 - Food Well Alliance offered program support through \$10,000 grant
 - YMCA Day of Service, 100+ volunteers, Sept 14, 9am-noon
 - Fall Member Appreciation Picnic, Sept 14, 5-7pm; garden inspired dishes

6. Project Management – Kurt Kirby

- Park Enhancements:
 - North Park restroom floors resurfaced with SaniGlaze
 - Zagster Bike Share station added downtown at Village Green; new bikes installed this month at all stations across the system
- Park Repairs and Improvements:
 - Webb Bridge Park pedestrian bridge completed
 - Next up...path restoration between North Park Fields 7-8
- Park Development:
 - Windward Soccer Park redevelopment
 - Still in permitting phase
 - Site work, trail construction starts Sept 12
 - Playground RFP proposals deadline, Sept 20
 - Pre-cast restrooms by CTX approved by Council
 - Mid-Broadwell Park concept approved by Council
 - Community input meeting included request for water feature, which will be considered for incorporation into natural area
- Wayfinding and Signage Replacement:
 - Sign Replacement Phase I
 - First sign installation scheduled for October
 - North Point Park, Rock Mill Park on greenway, first signs installed
 - Preston Ridge Park
 - Landscaping around sign has been completed

B. Director Update – Morgan Rodgers

- Amanda sends an email each week to Public Safety regarding what's happening in Alpharetta; as a sample, current week includes 8 opportunities for free fitness
- City Council meeting on Sept 9, 2019:
 - Approval of YMCA Memorandum of Understanding, building contract
 - Provides programming spaces for activities on east side of town
 - Shared team for programming space, including special needs area
 - Separate entrance to community space, for access if YMCA is closed
 - Construction to start end of month; plans to be in space by next fall
 - Two-story open space; \$2.5 million from city; total costs \$3.4 million
 - Mid-Broadwell Park concept was approved by Council
 - Plan is to have no asphalt in this park; geogrid parking area with hard-packed surface; concrete only under restroom and single-use pavilion
 - Cheryl requested for us to be prepared in advance for citizen conversation regarding statistics of crime around park areas; Morgan agreed that we will be proactive for this conversation
- Council meeting agendas items for September:
 - Request to engage Pond as our construction administration for Windward Park project; Kurt is general contractor; Pond to advise

- Windward Park site work contract, Windward Park playground contract
- Approve for department to apply for Department of Natural Resources grant for stream restoration at Wills Park; funds were set aside, but not enough once final inspection occurred; Kurt attended grant application training; ask for \$250,000 matching grant for stream restoration funds; includes educational, environmental, recreational components in the application; contracting with Amanda Day, former city employee, to assist with writing of the grant application; prioritized as a project and seeking match funds to complete
- Other – commission discussion regarding process of YMCA construction plans and any input into design; approved by Council and department able to make minor tweaks to the design for use as shared open space for community programming

C. City Council – none

VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Chery Rand. Second by Melissa Jurgens.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm
- Next Commission meeting: October 8, 2019 at 7pm