



Town of Holly Springs
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Thursday, April 10, 2025
7:00 pm
Town Hall – Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Jason Guetgemann, Susan Smith, Sarah Larson, Daniel Fenton, Jodi Carey, Melinda Walker, Will Ulmer

Members Absent: Val Atkinson & Alise Caldwell (TRAC Ex-Officio)

Staff Present: LeeAnn Plumer, Adam Huffman, Jay Bratschi, Julie Tew

Council Members: Tim Forrest

Call to Order Time: 7:01pm

Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes for March: Jason

Second: Sarah

Vote: Approved unanimous

Public Comment Period No public comment

Discussion/Action Items

Ting Park and Stadium Updates-Jay

- Jay shared about the new netting that will be installed in the coming months, it be a thinner material, much easier to see through but just as durable and has a 10 year life span.
- Notable Events coming up
 - April-Battle of the Badges
 - May 10th-EverClear (approx. 2000 tickets sold at this time)
- Perdue was in the stadium again this year and plans to return in 2026
- The pickle ball courts have been updated with freshly painted lines and new wind screens
- NCHSAA-hosting Women's and Men's tennis State championships as well as Baseball this year (in June) all at Ting
- Wake Tech and Pro 5 academy still call Ting their home fields this season
- We are continuing our partnership with Wake FC-signed for another 10 years
- Hosting AUSL (softball league) in August- added new base paths, this will air on ESPN, August 2-4th, 2025
- Salamanders season will begin May 23rd-we will continue our agreement with them as well
- Ting office areas will be getting a new AC unit
- Closing the year out with the HSRC ½ Marathon and Winterfest (Chamber Event)

Hot Topics

PRAC Round Robin

- Susan: Middle Creek Greenway-shared concerns about almost being attacked by a dog, questioned if there was an emergency while on the greenway how you would tell emergency personnel where you were. Suggested mile markers. LeeAnn shared that GIS locators are being used currently and that mile markers will eventually be installed (or tic marks at least)
- Sarah: Harry Potter Day at Bass Lake was very busy and a huge success. Would like to see extra supplies so people could make their own if the “wands” run out. Also it is suggested to advertise that the walking portion would be the 2-mile loop (was part of the scavenger hunt)
 - Also shared about the Spring Classing being held this weekend April 12th- sold out with 500 participants, has had great supports and is cross promoting with the Farmers Market.
- Daniel: Shared that he is enjoying visiting the library with his grandson
- Jason: Asked about the basketball courts at Ting, will they be refreshed? Staff noted that nothing is planned at this time. There is support from P & R and Town Council to add full size courts out there, but funding has not been identified.
- Jodi: Ribbon cutting for Middle Creek Greenway was great. Excited for the ground breaking for ELP on May 1st
- Will: Shared concerns regarding the hunting land that is going through the anticipated greenway near Carolina Springs (Duke Energy Land). Staff will look into the area with Duke and the agreement with the developer. They will report back next month.
 - Also, questioned the youth soccer draft being every season, as it breaks up the friends formed on the teams. Staff responded that there are pros and cons no matter what the format of team formation and that staff consistency reviews polices and best practices.

Reports

Council Update – CM Forrest

- Town Council Workshop-ELP- construction costs have not gone down
- Moody and S&P=AAA rating which helps with lower borrowing rates
- Moving forward with the OPs campus, Annex building will be torn down
- Projects still on the horizon-Theater seat replacement, big reclass of employees, Sugg Farm projects, road improvements (widening 55 to 6 lanes, growth at Ting Park)
- Upcoming Greenway-safety protocols, build in strategies, phase process

TRAC Report – Sarah (in lieu of Alise reporting)

- Clean up day at Ting Park was last Tuesday.
- May 13th is next meeting
- TRAC will be volunteering at July 5th to run kids games
- Staff is wanting to add teen excursions/field trips to local attractions like Carowinds, Battleship in Wilmington, etc.

Police Community Advisory Group – Val

Val was at this quarter's meeting, so no update this month

Tree Advisory Committee Update – Mel

Arbor Day Tree Planting - March 22nd was well received and positive

Project Updates – Adam

- New score boards at Womble
- Oak Hall to Ting Greenway-should begin August, and completed by Spring 2026
- Jones Park Disc Golf Tee Pads-phase 2 and completion May 8 left to complete
- Sugg Farm Community Garden-fencing should be completed by May 15th, nature play area should be completed by summer (parking area is completed).
 - Plots will be advertised for rental Dec/Jan
- Ting Water Fountains-completed by April 15th, then 12 Oaks is on the list next
- Bass Lake Spillway Expansion-construction has begun, should be finished before hurricane season
- Middle Creek Greenway-punch list items, identifying trash can and dog station sites (largest ribbon cutting for one of our greenways to date) Directional signs will be added.
- Ting Soccer Turf Replacement-will begin late May-new lines include lacrosse and intro to soccer fields (ELP will have the same layout)

Director Report – LeeAnn

- Cultural Center Manager will begin on April 21st and Park Planner on May 16th
- Trail Safety Campaign-Social media outreach, signs, website info, and stencils (April, May and June will be educational months)
- PRAC Outreach Opportunity-Wild about Nature May 17th from 1-4pm (sign up genius to go out)- Children's activity recommended
- Vision for Ting and Mims Park-destination for downtown; Ting Park Catalyst Sites- future presentation on this and ask for feedback from the board-sports entertainment district at next meeting in May.
- ELP updates: Projected expenses are about \$3M over anticipated revenue. In order to stay within budget – several items have been added to a Bid Alt list with the hope of adding many back to the project – once the bids have been received.
- Did receive \$12,000 revenue for the sale of the house
 - Working with Construction Manager at Risk to watch prices and material cost
- The Committee recommended the Skate Park, greenway and Parks Maintenance barn upfit as the top priorities on the bid alt list.
- ELP next steps
 - Design plan review (development services and utilities)
 - Groundbreaking (May 1st)

Old Business

Announcements / Information Share

- Sat April 12 *NC Spring Classic Race & Festival (roads, greenways, & downtown)
- Sat April 26 *SpringsFest – downtown
 - *Festival of Legends – Sugg Farm
- Thurs May 1 Eagles Landing Park – Ribbon Cutting

- Fri May 2 International Food Festival – Cultural Center (Sip & Stroll Kick Off)
- Sat May 10 Everclear – Ting Park
- Sat May 17 Wild About Nature – Sugg Farm
- Fri May 23 *Home Opener – HS Salamanders
*Community Hosted Event

Adjournment 9:15

Motion to Adjourn: Susan

Second: Sarah

Vote: Unanimous