

Town of Spring Lake  
Board of Aldermen Workshop  
Municipal Building  
300 Ruth Street  
Spring Lake, NC 28390

April 21, 2008

MINUTES

7:00

p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a joint workshop with the Recreation Advisory Board in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Municipal Complex.

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Pro-Tem James O'Garra  
Alderman Fredericka Sutherland  
Alderman Richard Higgins  
Alderman Napoleon Hogans  
Alderman Jack Vannoy

**Recreation Advisory Board Members:** Charles Derrickson  
Sheila Vannoy  
Rex Perry  
Eddie Robinson  
Tammy Stephens  
Jannell Medena

**Others Present:** Larry Faison, Town Manager  
Del Crawford, Crawford Design Company  
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

The purpose for the workshop was to discuss Mendoza Park improvement initiatives and future recreation initiatives.

(A copy of the workshop agenda and supporting documents is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment one.)

Mr. Metcalf explained the time frame and outlined what we need to do to apply for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant.

A conceptual plan rendering for Mendoza Park was shown and the changes were explained. He stated that this drawing is only a plan and not a blue print. It is not to scale.

There was a question posed about what safety provisions will be made pertaining to the small lake near the t-ball fields. Mr. Metcalf stated that the lake will be fenced off but we will be restrained to what the environment will allow.

Mr. Derrickson gave a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that the plan is a phased plan, so parts can be done without having to do it all.

- a. move the concession stand
- b. move the playground
- c. rotate and resize field A
- d. add multi-purpose field #1
- e. add re-establish the parking lot
- f. add road for field #2
- g. add multi-purpose field #2
- h. add picnic shelters
- i. add additional parking
- j. add basketball court and trails
- k. reorient field C
- l. create walking trails
- m. move storage buildings

One consideration brought up was that the playground is considerably further away from the picnic shelters.

Restrooms were discussed and the need to put an additional restroom somewhere in the park.

The wetlands were discussed and Mr. Metcalf advised that the plan as presented will not encroach on any of the wetlands. He stated that we had two separate opinions, one stated not usable and another that said something may be able to be worked out. This plan is based on the more conservative delineation based on an opinion from the Army Corps of Engineers.

It was suggested that both Boards go to the park and obtain a better visual of the plan and the distance between areas.

It was discussed moving the roadway up and move the basketball court and the playground closer to the picnic shelters, or at least the playground to help parents keep an eye on their kids. It was also proposed that a small playground be created near the picnic area. Other considerations discussed were to keep the noise of playing children at a distance to allow picnic areas to be a more peaceful area and moving the picnic areas somewhere closer to the playground equipment. Another proposal was to add a few picnic shelters near the playground.

A concern was brought up that having a basketball court in a park area would draw older kids who tend to congregate and conduct themselves in a manner that is not acceptable for children to be around.

Mr. Derrickson stated that we need to revamp the park master plan before we submit an application to PARTF. This will give us more points toward the grant.

Mr. Metcalf stated that the idea is to have a consensus tonight so that we can proceed with the public forums.

Alderman Vannoy asked that we present this plan to the public and get their input and

then bring it back to the Board of Aldermen and Recreation Advisory Board.

Mr. Crawford stated that you should have a minimum of two citizen input meetings. He explained that you typically have one meeting where the citizens give their input and do not show them the conceptual plan at that time. You gather all the info from the citizens and then at a second meeting you show them the conceptual plan. He stated that doing it that way gives you a truer vision of what the citizens want. With the plan in front of them, the citizens tend not to offer their ideas.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra suggested that all this information be presented to the Mayor upon her return. Alderman Vannoy suggested that we honor the work that has been done and go forth with presenting the plan to the public.

Mr. Derrickson asked the Board to accept, amend, or reject the plan presented. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with the plan for public comment.

Mr. Metcalf gave a brief overview of the aquatic center splash pad plan.

Sandhills Area Land Trust would like to do a tour of the proposed Little River Park soon.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Rhonda D. Webb, CMC  
Town Clerk

ATTEST:

Ethel T. Clark  
Mayor