

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

September 22, 2008

MINUTES

5:30

p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a workshop in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Ethel T. Clark presiding.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro-Tem James O'Garra
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderman Napoleon Hogans
Alderwoman Nellie McCoy
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director
Del Crawford, Crawford Design Company

Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

This workshop was held for the purpose of discussing the Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Crawford gave an overview of why the workshop is necessary. There were three forums held to provide general information about the recreation and parks system. These forums allowed citizens to provide ideas for overall parks and recreation needs and specific needs for Mendoza Park.

The Recreation Department, with the help of Crawford Design Company, sent out a survey to the citizens. They received 178 back out of all the surveys that were sent out. Mr. Crawford explained the results revealed in the survey.
(A copy of the supporting documentation becomes a part of these minutes.)

The comprehensive plan is needed as a guide for the Board but also to help leverage money from grant opportunities. The deadline for the next PARTF grant is Monday, February 2, 2009. Staff would like the Board to give consideration to a PARTF grant application.

Mr. Crawford stated that he and the Town's staff have been working on this plan for a couple of years. He presented and explained the proposed comprehensive plan and showed some changes that are recommended. Areas discussed involved Town Hall Area Park, the proposed Aquatic Center, the Mutzberg Tract, Wilson Avenue Neighborhood Park, Odell Road Neighborhood Park, the Multipurpose Community Center and Mendoza Park. Mr. Metcalf stated that a lot of the proposed changes are

directly related to the programs that the Town offers.

The plan keeps as much undisturbed nature as possible and landscaping will be a priority to keep it looking like a park as much as possible.

(A copy of supporting documentation becomes a part of these minutes.)

Mayor Clark asked if the Town could get CDBG money if we get PARTF grant money and it was stated that we can try to get CDBG money. PARTF requires that projects be completed within three years. The maximum amount is approximately \$500,000. Mayor Clark requested that Mr. Metcalf check with Cumberland County concerning CDBG money.

Mr. Metcalf stated that the proposed CIP is a working document and in no way ties the Board's hands. He stated that he will request at the Board meeting tonight to set a public hearing on the comprehensive and capital improvement plans for October 27, 2008. The plans are required to be in place to qualify for PARTF grant funding and we will have to have ours in place before we submit a grant application.

Alderman Hogans asked about the estimated costs listed on the Capital Improvement Plan and Mr. Metcalf stated that they are ball park estimates on the high side. It will all depend on the time that the work will be done and the economy at that time.

Alderman Hogans asked about the wetlands area and if anything can be done with that area. Mr. Metcalf stated that currently we could use the area as passive recreation, recreation where there is not a lot of disturbance, such as a walking area, but that is about the only way we could use it at this time. He stated that in several years we could request the Army Corps of Engineers to re-evaluate the area.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Rhonda D. Webb, CMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:

Ethel T. Clark
Mayor