

**FREMONT AREA
PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 8, 2006
Fremont Municipal Building**

The meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Chair Rhondi Davis.

Park & Recreation Members Present: Rhondi Davis, Todd Blake, Brian Hettinger, Jeannie Caris, Roger Tuuk, Pam Zuchowski, Marianne Oosterhouse & David Byrne

Public Present: Barb Sheren

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Pam Zuchowski, seconded by Brian Hettinger to approve the meeting agenda; motion approved.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Brian Hettinger, seconded by Marianne Oosterhouse to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2006 meeting; motion approved.

Town & Country Path

Funding Report: Roger Tuuk reported there is an estimated \$350,289 available for construction of Phase 2 of the Town & Country Path. He also reported the Town & Country Path Endowment Fund, held at the Foundation, has a current value of approximately \$7,900.

MDCHG Grant: Ms. Barb Sheren, NC District #10 Health Dept. Educator, announced they have been awarded a \$10,000 grant for health awareness, enhancement and promotion of the Town & Country Path. Funds can be appropriated for health awareness in the community by using the Path for walking, biking and various other means of exercise and for enhancement of the Path by signage, bike racks, benches and exercise stations. Ms. Sheren noted the grant must be expended by August 31, 2007 and that a tentative budget should be developed no later than January.

Phase 2 Update: Todd reported easements were drafted for Phase 2 construction and submitted to the appropriate property owners, but have not been received back as of yet. He also reported the DNR will have to pre-approve the engineering specs and the easements, before the project can begin. Construction will most likely take place next Spring, with bid-letting during the winter months.

5-Year Recreation Plan Update

Todd requested the Committee review the current Plan and make notes regarding the necessary update of the recreational inventory within the Plan. Comments and ideas should be emailed to Todd, of which he'll incorporate into the Inventory section of the Plan.

Todd noted each participating jurisdiction should hold a public hearing for purpose of receiving public input and comments regarding the updating of the Plan's 5-Yr Capital Improvement Plan. Holding the public hearings a half hour before the jurisdictions regular monthly meeting may gain more input at the hearings.

Todd will forward proposed, updated sections of the Plan, for the committee's preliminary review before the next meeting. The Plan should be adopted by March, to qualify for State grant requests due in April 2007.

Coordination of the Plan's update may be with the same consultant being used for the Joint Comprehensive Development & Growth Management Plan update. A separate agreement may allow for the Park & Rec. Plan to be updated sooner.

Old & New Business

David Byrne asked if there was any further consideration to forming the Fremont Area Recreation Authority. Todd Blake suggested the Committee invite Joe Vandermeulen to the Committee's next meeting to give an informative presentation on recreation authorities, benefits and the formation process.

Ms. Barb Sheren suggested the Committee consider a "Safe Routes to Schools" program, whereas the NC Health Department could do an assessment to help identify needed routes. An assessment would help qualify the Committee for State grant funding currently available for "Safe Routes to Schools."

Next Committee Meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Dec 13th or Jan 10th, depending on Mr. Vandermeulen's availability and the Plan review progress by committee members.

Adjournment

Motion by Todd Blake, seconded by Roger Tuuk to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:50 PM; motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd M. Blake
City Clerk/Finance Director