



Town of Mooresville
Cultural & Recreation Services Department
Post Office Box 1455
418 Carpenter Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115
(704) 663-7026

Cultural & Recreation Services Advisory Board

May 4, 2016

Members Present

MaryLynn Baldwin
Beau Evans
Thurman Houston
Ron Johnson
Dan Kraus
Steve Mangum
Lawrence Williams

Members Absent

Ashley Morgan

Staff Present

Dick Poore
Daniel Stines
Kobeyeh Riley
Jeremy Elliott
Heather Brouse
Nancy Handy
Jennifer Sixkiller
Stephanie Crisco
John Pritchard
Todd Lederer

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dick Poore at 6:01 pm.

II. Board Member Introductions

Dick thanked all of the members for volunteering their time to serve on the board and Commissioner Houston added his appreciation for their service to the community. Members then introduced themselves to the group.

III. Staff Introductions and Orientation Briefing

After staff introductions Dick explained the Vision and Mission of Mooresville Cultural and Recreation Services and went on to tell about our staff, the FY16 budget and FY15 revenues. He then turned the floor over to staff members to share information about their individual departments.

Stephanie Crisco described the Charles Mack Citizen Center as Mooresville's Event Place and discussed the revenue brought in by the many weddings, meetings, etc. held in the facility each year.

Jeremy Elliott gave a brief update on the progress at the Golf Course and mentioned the new manager, Luke Stemke who will start work this month.

John Pritchard addressed the changes that have taken place at the Mooresville Public Library since the new facility was built in 2005, including the increase in number of employees and in the average number of visitors per day (1,000) and per year (245,000). He reminded the board that 80% of the library's funding comes from Iredell County which makes this library unique among most others and has helped to make it the #2 library in the state, second only to the one at Chapel Hill.

Daniel Stines briefed the group on the Parks and Recreation aspect of MCRS and mentioned the number of employees on staff. He discussed some of the improvements being made and gave an



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update on our park amenities and athletic events including tournaments, which are highly successful due to our partnership with the Mooresville CVB.

Kobeyeh presented data regarding our centers and programs, focusing on internal and external partnerships and the service we are able to provide to over 100,000 individuals annually. He described our outreach efforts such as the summer feeding program and Game Changers sports activities which are made possible through our partnerships with local churches and agencies.

IV. Library Presentation on Mobile Hotspots (Request Board Feedback)

Jennifer Sixkiller described the Digital Divide, the wide gap that exists between those families who have access to computers, cell phones and other wireless devices and those who do not, in spite of the fact that the median income of Mooresville households had risen to \$60,000 as of 2013. She described the disadvantages of those who are economically challenged and proposed that the library be allowed to provide pocket WiFi (portable hotspot) devices to students and their families to help bridge the existing gap. These devices would have set filters to prevent any abuse and would be available to those with a library card (parents would have to sign to approve). Jennifer stated the cost of the devices and described in detail how they work. They would potentially be circulated for only 7 days at a time, considering the fact that they will be highly requested items. Mr. Houston raised the question of safety/liability issues that might go along with these items and asked who would be responsible in the event of such an issue; he also expressed concern about the cost involved considering the amount of money we've invested in MI-Connection which provides for computer usage at the library. MaryLynn voiced her concern over possible safety issues as well. Jennifer assured the group that students must bring their school laptops into the library to have the hotspot devices linked to them; this would effectively prevent any abuse. She concluded the presentation by saying that library staff will further investigate the devices, contacting other town libraries that currently provide these mobile devices, and report their findings to the board at its next meeting.

V. Conclusion

Dick concluded the meeting by explaining the contents of the notebooks provided to board members and asked them to consider what day they would like to meet each month. He also proposed that they consider candidates for nomination to the position of Chair and Vice Chair, as well as any changes to the by-laws.

He stated that feedback would be provided regarding the consolidation of the Winnie Hooper Center and Selma Burke Community Center.

Steve Mangum made a motion that the meetings be held on the first Tuesday of each month; the motion was seconded by Ron Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment

Dick asked if there were any future discussion then called for the motion to adjourn; Steve Mangum made the motion and Lawrence Williams seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.