

GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING  
May 10, 2023 6:30 PM  
Graham Historical Museum

AGENDA

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Chairperson's Report
- IV. Director's Report
  - 1. GRPD staffing
- V. Old Business
  - 1. Graham-Mebane Lake - MOA for ramp project
  - 2. Shelter #1 renovations - Insurance claim
  - 3. Shelter #2 replacement - Insurance claim
- VI. New Business
  - 1. FYE '24 Budget proposal
- VII. Activity Reports
  - 1. Recreation Center
  - 2. Athletics
  - 3. Programs
  - 4. Parks
  - 5. Graham-Mebane Lake
  - 6. Marketing
  - 7. Hall of Fame
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Adjournment

# GRAHAM RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

March 8, 2023

## GRAHAM HISTORICAL MUSEUM

### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Chair Jay Cook, Laurie Pickard, Nicki Smith, Brian Cutlip, Carmen Latimore, Casey Johnson

**STAFF:** Brian Faucette

Chair Cook called the meeting to order at 6:32 with a welcome and facilitated an introduction of members for the new Commission members.

### MINUTES

-Mr. Cutlip made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Smith and unanimously approved.

### CHAIR'S REPORT

-To give context to a reference of a \$35,000 donation from the Friends of Graham Group in the January minutes, Chair Cook gave a brief history and mission of the 501c3 group.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

-Mr. Faucette reported all part-time staff positions are currently filled. Additional Camp and Parks Maintenance positions recently opened and will be filled in the coming weeks. The Athletic Supervisor position will open on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Faucette outlined the hiring process to ideally have a new staff member in place by early May.  
-Mr. Faucette reported the sandbox at Graham Regional Park has been permanently removed. Sand has been a constant maintenance issue but recently caused the removal and repair of a major piece of equipment. Staff will explore equipment to add to the former sandbox area. Mrs. Pickard encouraged staff to consider inclusive equipment.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Faucette updated the Commission on the recently City Council approved Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for the renovation of the boat launch ramps and docks at Graham-Mebane Lake. NCWRC leadership will review the MOA and is expected to sign it in the next couple of weeks. GRPD staff met with NCWRC staff to begin finalizing the design and timeline for the project. To date, the project is scheduled to begin in the Winter of 2024.  
-Mr. Faucette reported the insurance claims for Shelter #1 and #2 at Cooke Park have been finalized with work to begin in the next few weeks. Shelter #1 is expected to be completed by the end of April. A timeline has not been set for the competition of Shelter #2.  
-Mr. Faucette updated the Commission on their recommended action concerning land owners adjacent to Graham-Mebane Lake property. GRPD staff crafted a letter to educate land owners on the ordinances governing the Lake. The letter is now being reviewed by City Administration and Attorneys.

### NEW BUSINESS

-Mr. Faucette highlighted the recently submitted Capital Improvement Plan requests for each GRPD division. An ADA restroom and entryway door at the Graham Recreation Center, a new truck for the Parks Division, and additional funding for renovations of the marina and the pontoon boat were discussed.  
-Mr. Faucette informed the Commission the Operations Budget request for each GRPD Division remains largely unchanged from past years.

### ACTIVITY REPORTS

**Marketing:** N/A **Athletics:** N/A **Centers:** N/A **Programs:** N/A **Friends Group:** N/A **Parks:** N/A  
**Sports Hall of Fame:** The next meeting is set for April; nominations are due by the end of August; Mrs. Smith asked GRPD staff to create a flyer to advertise the H of F nomination process in the Historical Museum.

### OTHER BUSINESS

-Chair Cook asked staff to explore the possibility of hosting the June Commission mtg. at Graham-Mebane Lake and to include a pontoon boat cruise.

-Chair Cook received a request form a community member concerning hunting on the City owned "farm" operated by the Utilities Division. Mr. Faucette gave the opinion that no public access would be given to that property whether it be for recreation purposes or any other public purpose.

With all business concluded, Mr. Cutlip made a motion to adjourn at 7:48pm, seconded by Mrs. Pickard and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Faucette

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Jay Cook, Chair

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Date

Graham Recreation and Parks Commission  
Director's Report for April '23

**I. Present Projects**

- a. **Shelter #1 @ Cooke Park** - All repairs are complete; the shelter is open for rentals.
- b. **Shelter #2 @ Cooke Park** - All design requests have been submitted to begin the engineering process followed by the construction of the structure. Delivery of the structure will be based on the install contractor's schedule.

**II. Future Projects**

- a. **200 North pocket park** - Site amenities are still being explored.
- b. **Historical Museum** - The door trim has been repainted with all repairs now completed. The red doors will be repainted later in the spring.

**III. Policies/Manuals/Plans**

- a. **Graham-Mebane Lake Master Plan** - The plan should be completed by June.
- b. **Sponsorship Policy** - Work on the development of a departmental sponsorship policy is progressing.
- c. **GRPD Personnel/Orientation Manuals** - Work on a Personnel Manual and an Orientation Manual continues.

**IV. Historical Museum Attendance - 51 - April**

**V. Outside Committees**

- a. **Wellness Collaborative** - No updates
- b. **Friends of GRPD** - No updates

**VI. Staffing**

- a. **Hiring Process** - The new Athletic Supervisor is set to begin on May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- b. **Training** - Online training for PT and fulltime staff continues.

**VII. Financial Summary**

**Recreation Division**

Open Gym/Weight Room	\$8.00
Maple St. Center rentals	\$255.00
Civic Center rentals	\$320.00
Rec. Center rentals	\$165.00
Park Shelter	\$575.00
Passive Area Facility Rental	\$470.00
Table rentals	\$12.00
Baseball-refunds	(\$8.75)
Softball-refunds	(\$275.00)
T-Ball	\$25.00
Summer Day Camp	\$11,539.00
Cottontail Crawl	\$20.00
Graham Walks sponsor	\$150.00
Thursdays at Seven Concerts Series	\$3,500.00
Vendor Fee	\$345.00
Donations	\$20.00
Total	\$17,120.25

**Lake Division**

Fishing Boat launches	\$1,958.00
Non-Motor Boat launches (Kayak/Canoe)	\$207.00
Ski Boat launches	\$27.00
Jon Boat rentals	\$386.00
Kayak/Canoe rentals	\$291.00
Bank Fishing	\$1,446.00
Bait/Supplies	\$1,299.00
Shelter Rentals	\$50.00
Big Bass Tournament	\$320.00
Single Day Bass Tournament	N/A
Annual Permit (motorized boats)	\$1,460.00
Annual Permit (non-motorized boats)	\$345.00
Annual Permit (bank fishing)	\$130.00
Event Rentals	\$0.00
Lake Cruises	N/A
Misc.	\$0.00
Total	\$7,919.00



# Marketing Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION  
April 2023 Report



Contact: Brandy McCandless  
Title: Marketing Supervisor  
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Email: [bmccandless@CityofGraham.com](mailto:bmccandless@CityofGraham.com)

*"If we are growing we are always going to be outside our comfort zone."* — John Maxwell, bestselling author, coach, and speaker

## Project Updates

- Athletics Promotional Video footage with Titania Productions continued with Spring Youth Soccer highlights and will be ongoing throughout 2023 to capture all sports (04/03)
- Attended the Alamance Creek Week 2023 Partner Planning Zoom Meeting (04/04)
- Attended the Alamance County Programming Collaborative meeting in Mebane (04/04)
- Met with Graham Historical Museum Chair to discuss upcoming marketing for the Museum (04/06)
- Met with Marquis & Emma on-site at Bill Cooke Park to discuss Juneteenth planning & logistics (04/06)
- The Special Events Survey has been updated for 2023 and is now live on the City's website (04/10)
- Going Bonkers for Botany Program with Stormwater Smart was held at South Graham Park for Arbor Day in Graham with 8 participants (04/11)
- Attended the online Regional Municipal Special Event Teams Meeting, discussing permits, parade guidelines, races, misuse of facilities, & social districts (04/13)
- The City of Graham Mobile Parklet is now located at Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream in downtown Graham, providing outdoor seating for this local business (04/17)
- We had a booth at the Alamance Community College Job Fair, inviting students and community members to come to learn about job openings and fun recreation & parks opportunities (04/19)
- Attended the Leadership Alamance field day as a coordinator for "Recreation, Arts, and Tourism" day. The day's activities were coordinated by the Leadership Alamance Class of 2022 members: Rebecca May, Emily Robinson, and Brandy McCandless. (04/20)
- The monthly Hikes with Hounds program explored Haw River Trail's Shallow Ford Natural Area with three shelter dogs (Piper, Marigold, & Rayban) and 10 volunteers (03/21)
- Graham Historical Museum Advisory Board members, Nicki Smith, and Russell Compton attended the Founder's Day Celebration in Historic Glencoe, presented by the Textile Heritage Museum. Their booth featured the Graham Historical Museum's "curiosities" for the chance to win a prize. (04/22)
- Our Graham Recreation & Parks Team attended the Alamance-Burlington School System's Graham High School Job Fair sharing job openings across the City of Graham. Fun recreation and parks opportunities were featured with hands-on opportunities from the Park & Play Mobile Recreation Van, the Lake Boat, and Athletic Field Preparations. (04/26)

- Spring flowers were added to the City of Graham Mobile Parklet and Graham Historical Museum planters. (04/26)
- The Arbor Day in Graham's Tree Planting Ceremony scheduled for Friday, April 28 moved over to a rain plan due to the chance of storms and gusty winds for the day. The Arbor Day Ceremony was relocated to the City Hall Council Chambers and live-streamed on the City of Graham's YouTube. We will have a special Tree Dedication on May 26 at 3:00pm at South Graham Park as part of the First Responder Friday program. The tree planted is in honor and memory of our City of Graham and Graham Fire Department friend and colleague, Mr. Allen Maness. (04/28)



## Ongoing Projects

- Athletics Promotional Video footage is now underway with Titania Productions and will be ongoing throughout 2023 to capture all sports (completed: basketball, soccer)
- Coordinating new Park Signage with Syntech for Bill Cooke Park & South Graham Park: rules/hours, wayfinding signage, trail distance, tennis/pickleball court rules
- 200 North Main Street Pocket Park Project - exploring seating & lighting options to purchase with possible community partners/sponsors
- Updating Sponsorship Opportunities & Information
- Pursuing the NC Environmental Education (NCEE) Certification. The goals of the NCEE Certification Program are to increase environmental literacy, provide practice in environmental education teaching methods, and foster community leadership.
- Attending the NRPA & IFEA Event Management School at Oglebay for the Certified Festival & Event Associate (CFEA) Certification on January 14-19, 2024 for Year 2



## Current & Upcoming Programming

- **Sunflower/Crimson Clover Project at Graham Regional Park**
  - The Crimson Clover flowers peaked in April 2023, Sunflowers will be planted in May
  - A GRPD Parks & Athletic Facilities Team, City of Graham Public Works, and the Alamance County Soil and Water Conservation District Project



- **Graham Historical Museum**

- 2023 Exhibits

- January – March: Graham Architectural Artifacts: One Hundred Years of Homes in Graham – The exhibit features homes from Graham from each decade 1850-1950, with owners listed, structural descriptions, and architectural pieces connected to each home.
    - April – June: Vintage Quilts Exhibit - Quilts Handcrafted Over 50 Years Ago
    - July – September: Jeannie Swanner Robertson in honor of her 80th birthday which would have been in September 2023
    - October – December: 100 years of the Graham Courthouse (cornerstone laid in November 1923)

- Lunch-and-Learn at the Museum (Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm)

- Wednesday, May 17 - Speaker: Jeanette Beaudry, Graham Historical Museum Board Member • Topic: Quilts
    - Wednesday, June 21 - Speaker: Brian Baker, Assistant Alamance County Manager • Topic: Haw River Trail (2023 is the Year of the Trail)
    - Wednesday, September 20 - Speaker: John Guss, Alamance Parks Historic Properties Superintendent • Topic: Celebrating 100 years of Burlington Industries
    - Wednesday, October 18 - Speaker: Russell Compton, Graham Historical Museum Board Member & Local Historian • Topic: Alamance County Historical Courthouse

- Downtown Graham Architectural Tours - Saturday, August 5 • 8:00am

- Jeannie Swanner Robertson Birthday Party - Saturday, September 23 • 10am - 2pm

- Cemetery Tour - October Date: TBD

- **Hikes with Hounds**

- Year-Round, one Friday each month

- Partnership with the City of Burlington Animal Services and Recreation & Parks

- January Burlington - Burlington City Park (2 miles)
    - February Graham - Bill Cooke Park (2 miles)
    - March Burlington – Springwood Park (2 miles)
    - April Haw River Trail - Shallow Ford Natural Area (2-3 miles)
    - May Haw River Trail - SAX Island (2-3 miles)
    - June Haw River Trail - Longmeadow Trailhead (3 miles)
    - July Haw River Trail – Glencoe Paddle Access (2 miles)
    - August Haw River Trail – Swepsonville River Park (2 miles)
    - September Alamance Parks - Cedarock Park (2-3 miles)
    - October Burlington - Guilford Mack Park & Marina (2 miles)
    - November Burlington – Willowbrook Park (2 miles)
    - December Graham – Graham Regional Park (1-2 miles)

- **Arbor Day in Graham Activities**

- During the month of April (programs & social media tree education)

- Collaboration with the City of Graham Appearance Commission & Tree Board
- Arbor Day in Graham Opportunities:
  - Arbor Day Poem Contest (closed on 03/31)
  - Arbor Day Kindness Rock Hunt in Downtown Graham (April)
  - Going Bonkers for Botany at South Graham Park (04/11)
  - Arbor Day in Graham's Tree Planting Ceremony at South Graham Park (04/28)
- **Musical Chairs Countywide Outdoor Concert Series at Bill Cooke Park**
  - 2023 Band Lineup
    - May 5 – Kimber & Kompany – R&B/Pop
    - June 2 – Oscar's Latin Band – Latin
    - July 7 – Jukebox Rehab – Country/Pop
    - August 4 – Grizzly Goat – Americana Folk Rock
  - Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
  - Location: Bill Cooke Park • 1010 Townbranch Road, Graham, NC 27253
- **Alamance Creek Week**
  - 2023 Dates: May 13 – 21
  - Collaborating with Graham-Mebane Lake and StormwaterSMART for activities
- **Thursdays at Seven Concert Series in Downtown Graham**
  - 2023 Band Lineup
    - May 25 – The Holiday Band
    - June 22 – The Main Event Band
    - July 27 – Special Occasion Band
    - August 24 – The Sand Band
    - September 14 – The Magnificents Band
    - September 28 – The Mason Lovette Band
  - Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
  - Location: Downtown Graham • West Elm Street, Graham, NC 27253
- **Movies in the Park**
  - Every Saturday in September
    - September 2 – Soul
    - September 9 – TBD
    - September 16 – TBD
    - September 23 – TBD
    - September 30 – TBD
  - Time: the movie begins around 7:30pm (pending sunset time)
  - Location: Bill Cooke Park • 1010 Townbranch Road, Graham, NC 27253
- **Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz**
  - September 2023



- The Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz is an online event where community members work with park staff to create a snapshot of the variety of wildlife that can be found in Alamance County.
- 
- **Downtown Graham's Ice Skating Rink on Synthetic Ice**
  - 2023 Dates: November 24 - December 17 (3 weeks) *(tentative dates)*
  - Times: (see website for details)
  - Location: Downtown at Alamance Arts
- **City of Graham's Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration**
  - 2023 Date: Sunday, December 3 (rain date: December 10)
  - Time: 5:00pm – 7:30pm
    - Tree Lighting Ceremony: 6:30pm, fireworks will follow the lighting of the tree
  - Location: Front Lawn of the City of Graham Municipal Building (City Hall)

## Volunteering

- NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

## Social Media

Facebook Followers: 8,554 (increased 60)

Instagram Followers: 2,236 (increased 20)

Twitter Followers: 238 (decreased 1)

## Website

Top 10 Most Viewed City of Graham Website Pages for April 4 – April 2, 2023

### Top Posts/Pages



1. City of Graham, NC	3,892
2. Trash and Recycling – City of Graham, NC	1,341
3. Recreation & Parks – City of Graham, NC	1,317
4. Water & Sewer Billing – City of Graham, NC	1,302
5. GRPD Parks & Facilities – City of Graham, NC	959
6. GRPD Lake – City of Graham, NC	919
7. Police – City of Graham, NC	614
8. GRPD Lake Hours & Fees – City of Graham, NC	551
9. Public Works – City of Graham, NC	405
10. Water & Sewer – City of Graham, NC	401



## Graham-Mebane Lake Report, April 2023

### Graham Recreation and Parks Department



We had a solid, steady April, very similar in public use to last year. Annual Permit sales (106) and entries into our Big Bass Tournament (52) remain popular this year.

Bass fishing was good throughout the month. Spawning was an on-and-off affair due to cool fronts, but the fish always seem to find a way. Crappie fishing picked up the last week of the month. Catfishing showed signs of life, but will re-invigorate as the water continues to warm.

#### April Lake Highlights

- We had five club tournaments this month - three were from out-of-county.
- Brian Fisher, of Graham, won April in the Big Bass Tournament with an 8.32 lb. largemouth bass.
- Early in the month a NC Wildlife engineer was out surveying the launch ramps for the planned renovation.
- Steve was recognized at a luncheon for his 10 years of service with the city.
- We filled our fish feeders in the bank area to get ready for the start of bank fishing season.
- Steve represented the Lake Division at Graham High School Career Day.
- The Alamance Co. Rescue Unit held a sunken boat retrieval training on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Also, members of the canine unit brought out their search dogs for practice on and around water.
- Work continued throughout the month on the pontoon boat renovation. Removing the old flooring glue has been difficult, but we are almost to the point where we can glue new flooring down.
- Frequent rain kept the lake at full pool.



#### By the Numbers (2022 in parentheses)

Boat Launches:	539 (598)
Motorized Boats:	469 (537)
Ski Area Launches:	3 (4)
Non-motorized Boats:	67 (57)
Seniors/Disability:	71 (82)
Using Annual Permit:	235 (258)
Vessels Rented:	57 (68)

Customers	1,980 (2,007)
All Boaters:	853 (988)
Motorized:	774 (922)
Ski Area:	5 (7)
Non-Motor. Boater	74 (59)
Bank Anglers:	635 (468)
Vessel Renters	82 (72)
Passive Visitors:	410 (479)

Steve Hadden, CPRP  
Lake Warden, Graham-Mebane Lake  
Marina: (919) 563-6544;  
[shadden@cityofgraham.com](mailto:shadden@cityofgraham.com)



# Graham-Mebane Lake Monthly Financial Report

Graham Recreation and Parks Department



April 2023

# Days Open: 26

Daily Activity from Staff Reports:

Date	Boats	Visitors	Daily User Fees:				Fishing		Vessel Rental	Fishing Tourn.	Lake Cruise	Over		Total \$
			Motor.	Ski Area	Non-Motor.	Bank	Bait	Supplies				Misc.	Under	
1	11	56	92.00		45.00	40.00	21.25	7.75		35.00				\$241.00
2	60	151	700.00		24.00	58.00	63.75	9.50	10.00	140.00				\$1,005.25
3	21	57	83.00		6.00	40.00		5.25	16.00					\$150.25
4														
5	35	100	288.00	9.00	33.00	47.00	46.75	8.50	38.00	25.00				\$495.25
6	26	61	139.00			17.00	25.50	12.25	20.00					\$213.75
7	5	17	26.00			9.00	4.25							\$39.25
8	1	24				6.00								\$6.00
9	6	66	18.00		45.00	54.00	39.25	9.00	22.00					\$187.25
10	8	33	22.00	9.00		27.00	8.50	6.25	10.00			0.50		\$83.25
11														
12	35	104	90.00		18.00	74.00	48.50	19.50	62.00					\$312.00
13	36	99	213.00		18.00	81.00	90.50	8.50	10.00	60.00				\$481.00
14	5	42	9.00		6.00	41.00	35.25	14.00	10.00			0.25		\$115.50
15	40	129	125.00		255.00	113.00	59.25	11.00	73.00	10.00				\$646.25
16	29	124	181.00		24.00	80.00	80.50	10.00	113.00					\$488.50
17	14	63	49.00		15.00	60.00	30.75	2.00	28.00					\$184.75
18														
19	21	47	208.00			21.00	25.50	9.50	10.00					\$274.00
20	27	80	61.00	9.00	9.00	75.00	31.50	20.50	12.00					\$218.00
21	18	67	123.00		6.00	44.00	45.75	11.50						\$230.25
22	13	49	45.00		12.00	31.00	27.50	29.50						\$145.00
23	36	167	240.00		18.00	251.00	86.25	36.75	82.00	50.00				\$764.00
24	13	48	201.00			49.00	32.25	5.25	10.00					\$297.50
25														
26	12	41	25.00			45.00	21.00	13.00	24.00					\$128.00
27	5	48	4.00			37.00	12.75		44.00					\$97.75
28	3	49				66.00	17.00	15.25						\$98.25
29	52	197	463.00		18.00	144.00	98.25	35.25	73.00			1.25		\$832.75
30	7	61	13.00			66.00	38.00	9.25	10.00					\$136.25
Totals:	539	1980	\$3,418.00	\$27.00	\$552.00	\$1,576.00	\$989.75	\$309.25	\$677.00	\$320.00		\$2.00		\$7,871.00
Total Daily User Fees: \$5,573.00														

## Deposit Receipts:

Lake Deposits: Cash/Checks	\$4,998.50
Community Pass: Credit Cards	\$2,872.50
Community Pass: Shelter Rental	\$50.00
<b>RECEIPT TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$7,921.00</b>





# 2023 Year-To-Date Report for Graham-Mebane Lake

## Graham Recreation and Parks Department



ACTIVITY:	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	TOTALS
# Days Open	12	27	26								65
# Boats	151	477	539								1,167
# Visitors	381	1,290	1,980								3,651

<b>ALL REVENUE:</b>											
User Fees Total:	2,304.00	4,648.00	5,573.00								\$12,525.00
Motorized Boat	1,939.00	3,715.00	3,418.00								\$9,072.00
Ski Area Users	9.00	0.00	27.00								\$36.00
Non-Motorized Boat	216.00	330.00	552.00								\$1,098.00
Bank Fishing	140.00	603.00	1,576.00								\$2,319.00
Bait	54.50	403.75	989.75								\$1,448.00
Fishing Supplies	11.50	58.75	309.25								\$379.50
Vessel Rentals	86.00	156.00	677.00								\$919.00
Fishing Tourns.	445.00	2,785.00	320.00								\$3,550.00
Lake Cruises											\$0.00
Shelter Rentals		100.00	50.00								\$150.00
Other	-10.00	-5.00	2.00								(\$13.00)
Total Revenue	\$2,891.00	\$8,146.50	\$7,921.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,958.50

### DAILY AVERAGES:

Boats	12	17	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Visitors	31	47	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56
Revenue	\$240	\$301	\$304	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$291

*"A trophy carries dust. Memories last forever."*  
- Mary Lou Retton

*"The future of every community lies in capturing the passion, imagination, and resources of its people."*  
- Ernesto Sinolli

# Athletics Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION  
April 2023 Report

Marquis Graves  
Athletics Supervisor  
p. (336)570-6718  
e. [mgraves@cityofgraham.com](mailto:mgraves@cityofgraham.com)



## Programming:

- Spring Youth Athletics Programs:
  - Spring 2022-23 Soccer:
    - Playoff games for soccer will take place on April 6<sup>th</sup> with Championship game taking place on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
    - Rain date for soccer playoffs will be April 21<sup>st</sup>
    - After the championship games, we will have a small trophy presentation for the winning teams in both the 8U and 12U age groups.
  - Spring 2022-23 Baseball & T-Ball:
    - Practices for baseball will begin on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
    - Currently, we have 7 baseball teams. The breakdown is below:
      - 6U – 1 Team; 8 players
      - 8U – 2 Teams; 26 players
      - 10U – 2 Teams; 29 players
      - 13U – 2 Teams; 22 players
    - Currently, we have 5 T-Ball teams. The breakdown is below:
      - Team 1 – 10 players
      - Team 2 – 10 players
      - Team 3 – 10 players
      - Team 4 – 10 players
      - Team 5 – 9 players
    - We will partner with Gibsonville Recreation & Parks for baseball games.
    - Each team will play a total of 8 games not including playoffs.
    - Games are set to begin on May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ✚ Upcoming Programs:
  - Summer Youth Sports Camps:
    - Youth Basketball Sports Camp is set to begin on July 17<sup>th</sup>.
    - Youth Flag Football Sports Camp is set to begin on July 24<sup>th</sup>

**Safety Measures:**

- Parents must also read and sign off on the Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19 upon registering their child for any athletic program. The waiver can be found here [https://register.capturepoint.com/reg\\_adm/view\\_policy.cfm?s=le9MCvvRzcw%3D&t=21227281&policy\\_version\\_id=4227](https://register.capturepoint.com/reg_adm/view_policy.cfm?s=le9MCvvRzcw%3D&t=21227281&policy_version_id=4227)
- Parents must also read and sign a parent code of conduct agreement in order to have their child participate in youth sports.
- This year we have implemented a zero-tolerance policy to parents walking on the court for any reason other than injury to a child. Parents that walk on the court to engage with officials, opposing coaches or staff will be immediately asked to leave the premises.
- All coaches have been asked to complete a background check before being able to coach in any sport with the City of Graham.



# **PARKS & ATHLETIC FACILITIES**

**April 2023**



## **Bill Cooke Park**

**Athletic Fields** – All fields have been aerated.

Soccer goals and benches were removed at the end of the season.

All outfields were fertilized.

Fence lines sprayed for weeds.

**General Maintenance** – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Batting cage was hung.

Yellow bell bushes by field 1 were trimmed.

Seeded and strawed area by concession stand dug up to fix water line break.

Removed old tree stumps along walking trail behind field 3.

Removed bushes by gate that leads to shop.

## **South Graham Park**

**General Maintenance** – Monthly playground inspections were completed with no issues found.

Replaced hinges on tennis court gate that were broken.

Painted the trim around the new garage door.

Mulched tree rings within park.

## **Graham Regional Park**

**General Maintenance** – Monthly playground inspections were completed.

Play panel on inclusive playground was removed due to a broken part. Parts have been ordered.

Reinstalled the zipline.

Fixed an issue on the challenge course with one of the obstacles.

Fixed an issue with the inclusive playground gate latch.

## **Apollo/Goley**

**Apollo** – Spectator area was sprayed for weeds.

Leaves were removed from track as well as the spectator area.

**Goley** – Trees along pine street were trimmed.

Batting cage area was sprayed to maintain weeds.

## **Johnson Ave**

**General Maintenance** – No Report

## **Lake**

**General Maintenance** – Fixed an issue with the gutter on marina building.

Sprayed weeds along bank and in parking lots.

## **Neighborhood Parks & Playgrounds**

**Greenway** – Weeds sprayed in playground.

Trees limbed up within the park.

**Harmon Park** – No Report.

**Civic Center** – Installed new catch basins at downspouts.

Fixed holes in soffit.

**Marshall St** – No Report.

**Recreation Center** – Sprayed weeds in landscape beds and around facility.

Weeds around building and in landscape beds were sprayed.

**Oakley St.** – Weeds sprayed in playground.

**Maple St.** – No Report.

**Hwy 54 Access** – Facility opened for the season.

**200 N. Main** – Weeds were sprayed in the landscape and in turf area.

## **Miscellaneous**

*Sprayed weeds at the museum.*

*Straightened vent pipe on side of building at museum.*

*Parklet was pressure washed and then moved to Smitty's in Graham*

*Tel participated in career fairs for Graham High School and BEJ grade school.*

## **Continued Education & Community Involvement**

*Tel & Travis completed the aerial/scissor lift certification.*

*Tel completed the 2023 KnowBe4 training sent by IT.*

*Tel & Evan completed DEI training videos: Color Blind or Color Brave & We need leaders who boldly champion inclusion.*



# Programs & Events Report

GRAHAM RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION  
March 2023 Report

Emma Griffin  
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## Completed Programs

### Current Programs

- First Responder Friday
  - General Information
    - Collaborative program with the Fire and Police Department
    - Goal: to connect and engage with the community to foster good relationships and market programs
  - March 31: Bill Cooke Park (3:00pm-5:00pm)
    - Agencies represented:
      - Graham Recreation & Parks
      - Graham Fire
      - Graham Police
      - Alamance County EMS
  - Next Event: 3:00 – 5:00pm
    - April 28: South Graham Park
    - May 26: Graham Regional Park
    - June 30: TBD
    - July 28: South Graham Park
    - August 25: TBD
    - September 29: TBD
    - October 20: TBD

### Upcoming Programs

- Cottontail Crawl
  - Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023
  - "We can learn nothing except by going from the known to the unknown."

-Claude Bernard

- Time: 12:00pm – 4:00pm
- Businesses Participating:
  - Alamance Arts
  - Burney's Sweets & More
  - Graham Historical Museum
  - Forgotten Road Ales
  - Little Brother Brewing
  - OV Yonder Outfitters
  - Press
  - Shamrock Nutrition
  - 64 Harvard
  - The Verdict on the Square
  - Whit's Frozen Custard
- Stops will utilize QR codes and code words as we did last year.
- Park & Play will be set up
- Grand Prizes drawing at completion
  
- Graham Walks – Spring 2023
  - Program Dates: April 12 – May 17
  - Registration: March 22 – April 19
  - Kick-off Event: April 12
    - Lighthouse Nutrition: Hours TBD
    - Shamrock Nutrition: 11:00am – 1:00pm
    - Graham Recreation Center: 4:00pm – 6:00pm
  - Wrap-up Event: May 17
    - Lighthouse Nutrition: Hours TBD
    - Shamrock Nutrition: 11:00am – 1:00pm
    - Graham Recreation Center: 4:00pm – 6:00pm
  - Sponsors:
    - Shamrock Nutrition
    - Lighthouse Nutrition
    - Calming Hands Massage & Wellness
    - Beshel Chiropractic
    - Truliant
    - Watercourse Apartments
  - Weekly Group Hikes to Celebrate "Year of the Trail – 10:00am
    - April 19: Bill Cooke Park
    - April 26: Longmeadow Trail
    - May 3: South Graham Park
    - May 10: Swepsonville River Trail: Upper Access

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- Summer Day Camp
  - Program Dates: May 30 – August 25
  - Registration:
    - February 6 (previously registered families)
      - 93 individual campers registered as of 3/3
    - March 6 (general public)
      - 127 individual campers registered as of 4/4
    - Most weeks are on a waitlist at this point
  - Staffing
    - Madison (Assistant Director), and Connor (Assistant Director) have plans to return to camp. We will be meeting in the coming weeks to go over staff handbook and parent handbooks, and planning trips.
    - Two more full time counselors are required for operation
- Slice of Summer
  - Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 (4:00pm – 8:00pm)
  - Inflatables, music, arts and crafts vendors, and food trucks

## Professional Development

- NRPA
  - Cancelled due to COVID-19: NRPA Event Management School January 16-21, 2022
  - Planning to attend Supervisor's Management School in 2023
- Leadership Alamance
  - Selected as part of the Class of 2023 for Leadership Alamance. Leadership Alamance, a nine-month program, educates current and emerging leaders about Alamance County – its infrastructure, resources and challenges. During monthly field days, students become familiar with local history, government, educational institutions, criminal justice and public safety systems, health & human services, recreation and cultural arts programs, and our economic base.
    - March 16: Public Safety
      - We visited the Burlington Fire Training Center where the Burlington Fire Department along with Alamance Rescue and Alamance County EMS were present
      - Most notable takeaways:
        - We were informed at how low staffing and units we have for EMS in Alamance County. It amazed me that only 8 Ambulances (if all are staffed) serve the entire county.

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-Claude Bernard



- Service Learning Project:
    - Our group has hosted an ongoing Diaper Drive for the Dream Center at various locations around the county.
    - We are building 6 planter boxes for the Dream Center to be used for educational opportunities and a potential community garden.
    - Construction will take place Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22.
  - Upcoming Date:
    - April 20: RECREATION! 😊
- Harwood Institute:
  - I am in the Schools sub-group whose goal is to support and bring the community together for Graham Middle School.
  - Our first meeting is still being scheduled.

## Committees

- Safe Kids
  - Meeting on March 21:
    - I was able to connect our PD and FD to this committee and had members from both departments attend.
    - Hot Car displays:
      - First Responder Friday
      - Slice of Summer
  - Next Meeting: April 18
- Executive Safety Committee
  - Meeting on March 1:
    - Discussed injuries
    - Went over protocol for an OSHA inspection
    - We had a surprise inspection at our parks maintenance offices and Rec Center. Thanks to Tel and Vicky/Marquis for addressing all issues noted in our last inspection. This went very smoothly and nothing major was found at the moment.
- Alamance County Programming Collaborative
  - We were able to meet with programmers from other Recreation Departments across the county to discuss current and future programming, identify areas that we are struggling in, share ideas of areas we have succeeded in, and brainstorm ideas for future countywide programs.
  - Monthly Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:00pm
  - March 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting:
    - Discussed spring events
    - Farmer's Markets
    - Possible co-sponsorship on county-wide event (Adventure Race)

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- Next Meeting:
  - April 4<sup>th</sup>: Mebane Arts and Community Center
- Focus discussions on the Adventure Race

## Miscellaneous

- Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club After School Program
  - We are partnering with SABGC to host an After School program at the Graham Recreation Center
  - Pick up from North Graham Elementary, South Graham Elementary, and River Mill Academy
  - Provides Snack and Supper as supported by the YMCA
  - Began August 29
- Potential Programming
  - Street Events on West Elm, concerts, etc.
  - Downtown Music/Arts Festival
    - Beginning a program plan to develop a budget request for an event of this type
  - Fall Festival Style Event
  - Patriots Festival
  - Outreach programs in our communities

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