

# Cheryl Stallings

Apex Town Council  
*Improving Quality of Life for Our Community*



Hello Neighbors and Friends -

I hope this newsletter finds you safe and well. Our beautiful fall weather brings many invitations to be outdoors and enjoy a number of activities. I hope you are able to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine, as well as other activities that bring you joy. There is much going on in Apex, and I will

share some monthly highlights from your Town Council.

## **Town Council Meeting News**

### **October 6th - [Agenda](#) and [YouTube Video](#)**

This was a special called meeting with one agenda item (an effort to assist our downtown businesses who want to sell alcohol in their outdoor parklets on Salem Street). A recent change in state law requires the Town to adopt an ordinance that would then allow the businesses to take the necessary steps with the Alcohol Law Enforcement Agency to extend their ABC permit to cover outdoor parklet alcohol sales. The ordinance was adopted, and this will apply to the four parklets currently set-up in our downtown (2 on each side of Salem Street).

### **October 12th - [Agenda](#) and [YouTube Video](#)**

This meeting began with a [Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#) proclamation followed by a presentation on the status of [Pleasant Park](#) (a project being funded by a 2017 bond approved by Apex voters). A 92-acre park in the making (construction started in

August 2020), Pleasant Park will have athletic fields and courts, a running course, playgrounds, shelters, a splash pad, and a play village for all ages and abilities. The park is slated to partially open in the summer of 2022, with full completion late 2022.



Photo Credit: Town of Apex

Additionally, Council agreed to improvements/amendments to the Bicycle and Pedestrian System Plan map. In thinking about longer term growth, these amendments will work to promote more connectively and recreational opportunities for our residents.

In public art news, Council approved the purchase of the People's Choice Award winner from the recent Apex Sculpture Walk. The award winning artwork, "Uphill Battle" will be displayed by the skate park.

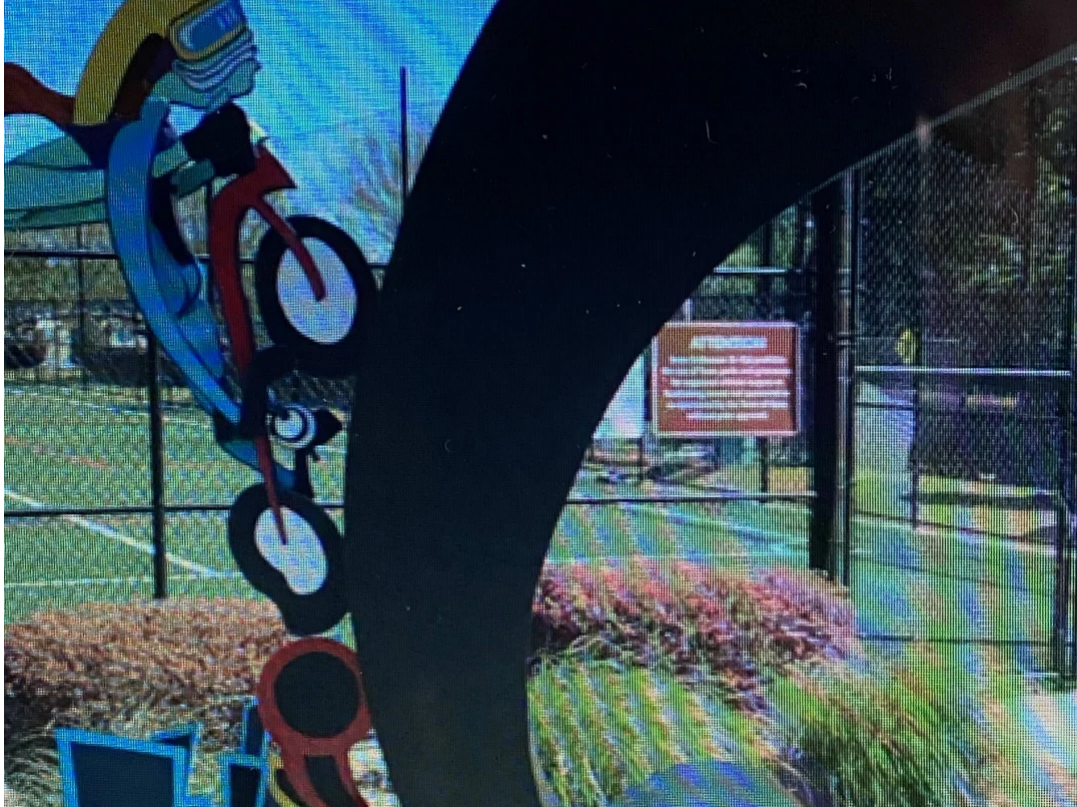


Photo Credit: Town of Apex

Council also approved the [Unity Mural art project](#). This project will be located on the brick retaining wall near the Apex Police Department, and will be a collaborative work between an artist, Apex High students, and our police department.

And finally, Council had a work session regarding our [Parks, Recreation, Greenways, and Open Space Master Plan](#). We are in the beginning stages of this work, which will involve a 10-year plan that will guide the development of our programs, facilities, parks, and greenways.

### **October 26th - [Agenda](#) and [YouTube Video](#)**

We began this meeting with an awards presentation by the Apex Public School Foundation. Every quarter, an Apex public school employee will be selected for the Peak STAR award. Any staff person, teacher, or administrator can be nominated for this award, which seeks to honor and celebrate the excellent work of our public school employees. Congratulations to Mr. Olive, custodian at Apex Elementary School, for being selected as the first Peak STAR recipient!

Next, Council received an update on the Town's [Customer Assistance Program](#). This program was created this past April in an effort to provide assistance with utility bills to those facing economic hardship caused by COVID 19. The Town contracted with Western Wake Crisis Ministry to make eligibility decisions (for

applicants with income at or below 200% of the US Poverty level). Assistance was initially given out in June, with qualifying applicants receiving up to \$636.00.

In other areas, Council approved an encroachment agreement with Google (as they want to expand their fiber optic services to Apex). This agreement will help protect the Town's infrastructure when they begin their roll-out, and also requires Google to give some advanced notice to the Town and residents before they begin cable installation.

The meeting concluded with Council going into closed session. This discussion pertained to the Town's negotiating position with respect to a possible land purchase.

### **Other Information, Community Events, and Outreach**

On October 11th, I enjoyed our Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at the Apex Nature Park. Mayor Gilbert, Council Member Killingsworth, and I helped kick the event off by reading the mayoral Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation.

On October 14th, Council had the opportunity to tour our new Electric Department Facility at 2850 Milano Avenue. This facility will house all personnel, equipment, vehicles, and supplies associated with this department. This relocation will free up space at our Public Works facility on Upchurch Street, and well as help to reduce vehicle traffic in downtown Apex.



Photo Credit: Town of Apex

I enjoyed our first Hispanic Heritage Month celebration on October 16. Live music was enjoyed by all at the Depot in downtown.

On October 19th, I attended the virtual Service Groups and Faith Alliance monthly meeting. Detective Allen with the Apex Police Department was the guest speaker. He provided information on internet safety with children, and warning signs about possible child exploitation.

We celebrated the Depot Grand Re-Opening and Ribbon Cutting on October 27th. Renovations are now complete, and the Depot houses our Economic Development team, the Apex Chamber of Commerce, and the downtown Welcome Center.



The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of our new Senior Center takes place on November 1st from 6 pm – 8 pm. A project funded by the 2017 Parks Bond, this building will provide expanded programs for seniors and those with special needs.



Photo Credit: Town of Apex

And finally, Tuesday, November 2nd is Election Day! There are 3 seats up for election on the Apex Town Council, as well as an infrastructure bond to help fund needed paving projects, sidewalks, and Peakway connection/traffic mitigation. I endorse the re-election of Council Members Audra Killingsworth and Brett Gantt. Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Dozier is not seeking re-election and I

endorse Ed Gray for the third seat. I also support the infrastructure bond. I hope you will get out and VOTE!

In closing, best wishes to you all in the coming month. Feel free to stay in touch if I can offer assistance to you. Take care - Cheryl

### [Our Vision](#)

- A community unified in the stewardship of our small town charm, natural environment, and a future where all succeed.

### [Our Mission](#)

- Provide exceptional public service that cultivates opportunity for the individual and community to live, thrive, and reach their peak.

### [Strategic Goals](#)

- High Performing Government
- Healthy & Engaged Community
- Environment Leadership & Responsible Development
- Economic Vitality
- Safe Community with Reliable Infrastructure

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