

TOWN OF GARNER
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: January 23, 2023

Date and Time: Pursuant to the Bylaws governing the Garner Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee, a meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on January 23, at 6pm at the Garner Senior Center.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Ernestine Durham called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The committee members present were Chair Ernestine Durham, Vice Chair Autumn Beam, Scott Bare, Matt Davis, Jay Ditenhafer, Tim Montgomery, Hope Webber, and Mon Peng Yueh. Staff members present were Maria Muñoz-Blanco, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Director, Megan Young, Operations Superintendent, Katie Lockhart, Parks and Nature Superintendent, and Todd Riddick, Recreation & Athletics Superintendent.
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Ernestine Durham asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Matt Davis motioned to approve the Agenda and Mon Peng Yueh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Approval of the September Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Chair Durham asked for any changes or a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2022 meeting. No changes were noted. Motion to approve the minutes made by Tim Montgomery, seconded by Mon Peng Yueh. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Petitions and Comments from the Public:
 - a. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared a public inquiry regarding a desire for kayak launch.
5. Committee Members Concerns/Comments:
 - a. None.
6. Senior Advisory Committee:
 - a. Tina Johnson shared several Garner Senior Center updates:
 - i. Recap of Congresswomen Ross press event.
 - ii. The Garner Senior Center was awarded the 7th Annual Ann Johnson Senior Center of the Year Award for Excellence in the Field of Aging.
 - iii. 65-80 people per day average center visitors.
 - iv. Senior Advisory Committee planning a work session meeting in March and setting a date for a public input workshop.
 - v. Suggestion by Senior Advisory Committee for seniors to receive a track-use only membership option at GRC.
 - vi. Tina Johnson will no longer serve at PRCR Advisory Committee liaison due to term limits. The Senior Advisory Committee elected Charlie Pearce as the new liaison.
7. Reports/Discussion Items
 - a. Director's Reports: Director Maria Muñoz-Blanco presented the monthly report.
 - i. Field work has started with Meadowbrook Park Dam and will continue through February. Reports and recommendations will be shared with

staff once complete. Key stakeholder meetings are estimated to start in April.

- ii. Contracts for inclusive playground and splashpad at White Deer Park and South Garner Greenway Extension to be executed soon. Design work will follow.
- iii. GPAC received a grant from South Arts to present a class and concert.
- iv. North Carolina General Assembly designated 2023 as the Year of the Trail. Proclamation to be read at the next Council meeting and PRCR will host activities throughout the year.
- v. GPAC presenting a jazz dinner and ticket sales look good.
- vi. Staff Updates: Allison Murphy completed the Early Childhood Outdoor Learn Environments certificate program at NC State and Brandon Smith graduated from NC State with a Bachelor of Arts degree.
- vii. The Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) process, recently approved by Council for Yeargan Park Phase 1, is the first time the Town of Garner has used this construction delivery method.
- viii. Katie Lockhart is working on a Wake County Hospitality Small Capital Projects grant application. The Committee voted unanimously to offer a letter of support for this grant process.
- ix. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared a recap of the Town's FY24 budget process and asked for suggestions on expansion requests from committee.
 1. Chair Durham recommended long-range planning to address cracks in walking trail at Lake Benson Park. Scott noted how narrow the path was compared to other trail systems. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared background on the Town's PFRM budget process and noted maintenance needs are addressed in partnership with Public Works. Maria Munoz-Blanco will get an idea of costs specific to this type of project and report back to the committee.
 2. Tim Montgomery inquired about staffing needs and Maria Munoz-Blanco shared the 5-year staffing plan and plans to further discuss staffing needs with the senior leadership staff team.
 3. Chair Durham and Mon Peng Yueh asked for an email outlining options and strategies for additional feedback.

b. Council Updates:

- i. Council Member Dellinger not present. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared the 2023 Year of the Trail Proclamation will be presented at the January 31 meeting.

c. Announcements:

- i. No announcements.

8. Other Business

- i. Tim Montgomery reiterated Congresswoman Ross' comment recognizing staff accomplishments. He also shared a history on the Senior Center, specifically noting Anna Hudson's work when the center first opened.

- ii. Tim Montgomery shared Pedestrian Plan updates, including the public meeting on February 23, 5-7pm, at White Deer Park.
 - iii. The committee discussed the request from the Senior Advisory Committee regarding waiving the GRC membership fee for use of the track use at GRC. Staff will bring data and cost recovery impacts back to the committee for further discussion.
 - iv. Hope Webber inquired about the possibility of “weekend in Garner” promotions to travel groups, tournaments, and other events to better support GPAC, PRCR, and Downtown Garner.
 - v. Chair Durham inquired about Meadowbrook progress. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared the unexpected condition of Meadowbrook Dam which has paused progress until additional information is obtained.
- b. Adjournment
- i. With no further business, Chair Durham asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hope Webber made the motion, seconded by Jay Ditenhafer. Motion carried unanimously.
 - ii. Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm.