

Garner Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes

May 19, 2023

9:00 AM

Location: Garner Senior Center

Call to Order and approval of March 2023 Minutes

Tony DeRico called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

Committee members in attendance: Tony DeRico (Chair), Sharon Verity (Vice Chair), John Bigliardi, Jo Cicci, Tina Johnson, Anne Morgan, Charlie Pearce, Michael Tew

Staff members present: Megan Young (Operations Superintendent), Todd Riddick (Recreation Superintendent), Torrey Blackmar (Senior Center Director)

Sharon Verity motioned to approve the minutes from the March meeting. John Bigliardi seconded. Committee motioned to approve with no edits.

New Business:

- a. Jennifer Murray – Resources for Seniors update:
 - a. May Freeman is the new director of Information and Referral
 - b. Resources for Seniors is currently experiencing staff shortages, may experience delays in getting information
 - c. Directories – No printed copies are available at the present time. Discussions are ongoing about the transition to digital copy only, although there is still support for hard copies. Jo Cicci asked if volunteers were needed to help with directories, but Jennifer stated that none were needed at this time. Mike Tew questioned the need for a tutorial for the directory
 - d. The addition of a Resources official at the Fuquay Varina Senior Center is currently on hold
 - e. Eye and hearing screenings and blood pressure checks are scheduled for the end of May
- b. Revision of Bylaws
 - a. The following changes to the bylaws were suggested by the committee members:
 - i. Change the duties of secretary from Senior Center Director to a member of the committee on a permanent basis. All of Article IX of bylaws would be moved into Article VII (Suggested by Torrey Blackmar, Anne Morgan)
 - ii. Articles X and XI would be moved up one number to IX and X, respectively

- iii. Change Article XII to include language on the length of time it may take to amend bylaws with the addition of review by the town attorney (Suggested by Michael Tew)
 - iv. A new Article XII would be created to include language on guidance for committee meetings open to the public. It was suggested that visitors be allowed to attend committee meetings, but only in the capacity of observers. At the conclusion of the meeting, the committee chair may open up the floor for observers to speak for a maximum of two minutes each. This change will be discussed in more detail at the next committee meeting (Suggested by Tony DeRico, Anne Morgan, and Torrey Blackmar).
 - v. Change in Article I to remove the word “hereafter” to “here and after” (Suggested by Jo Cicci)
 - vi. Article IV, Section F, add language to define the time period the liaison to the Parks and Recreation Committee would be appointed for. It was suggested to be a two-year period of appointment (Suggested by Tina Johnson).
- b. Other questions, concerns about Bylaws:
- i. Article IV, Section G – Tina Johnson questioned the need for more support for the committee from the Town Council and if additional language was needed. Torrey Blackmar stated that she would bring this up at the next Parks and Recreation committee meeting.
 - ii. Tina Johnson questioned whether committee minutes are part of public record and also questioned the timing of committee minutes posted to the GSC website. Torrey Blackmar and Megan Young both stated that all committee minutes are currently a part of public record.
 - iii. Changes to and addition of new bylaws are scheduled to be voted on at the next committee meeting.
- c. Review of Open House held May 8, 2023
- a. Torrey Blackmar stated that she thought the open house went very well. A total of 27 surveys were completed, but more surveys are needed (for a total of 50 to 75)
 - b. In order to acquire more surveys, Torrey Blackmar invited members to offer surveys to senior participants to complete. The following dates are available (all times from 9 to 11 AM): May 24, 26, 40, 31, June 6. Any committee member can volunteer, but please inform Torrey ahead of time.
 - c. Torrey Blackmar suggested that the length of time for future open houses be shortened from four hours to two and that the committee look into the possibility of having two open houses each year
- d. PRCR Committee Report – Charlie Pearse, Megan Young and Todd Riddick
- a. A guide to sponsorship of town events has been released
 - b. Memorial Day observance is scheduled for 9:30 to 10:30 on May 29

- c. Training for Summer Camp workers begins – 100 + children are expected each week for camp
- d. The recent PRCR sponsored Movie and Market nights were considered successful
- e. Personnel Matters:
 - a. The terms of members Tina Johnson and Charlie Pearse have expired. The Committee thanked them for their service.
 - b. Sharon Verity nominated Jo Cicci to be the committee's new liaison to PRCR. This was seconded by John Bigliardi and the motion was carried. Megan Young invited Jo to attend the next PRCR meeting with Charlie Pearse.
 - c. Tony DeRico and Sharon Verity were appointed to another two-year term as officers
 - d. Anne Morgan and Tony DeRico have been reappointed for an additional two-year term as committee members
 - e. There are currently three vacancies on the committee. The town would prefer that members be residents of the Town of Garner, but non-residents are also encouraged to apply.
 - f. Sharon Verity suggested that there be a roster of all committee members, to include name, phone and email information in case of emergencies.
 - g. The volunteer appreciation reception is scheduled for June 8 from 4 to 6 PM. It will be catered by Ragazzi's. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 AM.

Approved 9/22 by committee as written. TSB