

TOWN OF GARNER
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: June 26, 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 June 26, at 6pm at the Garner Recreation Center.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Ernestine Durham called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. The committee members present were Ernestine Durham, Autumn Beam, Mark Wood, Scott Bare, Tim Montgomery, Hope Webber, Matt Davis and Mon Peng Yueh. Staff members present were Maria Muñoz-Blanco, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Director, Katie Lockhart, Parks and Nature Superintendent and Megan Young, Operations Superintendent. Garner Town Council Member Demian Dellinger and Senior Advisory Committee liaison Jo Cicci were also in attendance.
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Chair Durham asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Tim motioned to approve the agenda and Mark seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Approval of the March Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Chair Durham asked for any changes or a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2023 meeting. No changes were noted. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mark, seconded by Tim. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Petitions and Comments from the Public:
 - a. None
5. Committee Members Concerns/Comments:
 - a. Tim Montgomery noted one cent from the tax increase Council approved will be allocated to maintenance of PRCR parks and facilities and inquired as to what next steps will be.
 - i. Council Member Dellinger provided an overview of the work that went into making that determination and thanked the committee for their involvement.
 - ii. Maria noted there's a planning meeting this week to discuss prioritization.
6. Senior Advisory Committee:
 - a. Jo Cicci introduced herself and shared updates on behalf of the committee.
 - i. Resources for Seniors may go to digital-only programs.
 - ii. The committee reviewed and made recommendations for bylaws.
 - iii. The committee discussed the public input session, and the recommendation was to shift the time to an earlier and shorter block of time and hold it twice per year.
7. Reports/Discussion Items:
 - a. Director and Department Reports: Director Maria Muñoz-Blanco presented the monthly report, along with additional updates.
 - i. Council made new appointments to PRCR committees effective July.
 - ii. The budget has been approved and PRCR's operational budget is 3.3 million.
 - iii. There were over 150 responses to the online survey for the White Deer Park projects and the in person public input session was well received.

- iv. GPAC received a \$9,000 grant in partnership with the library.
- v. Several program and event highlights featured in the report, including the upcoming Independence Day Celebration on July 3.
- vi. Maria shared a vehicle hit the main senior center building today. No injuries reported, but staff are working with Meals on Wheels to create a plan to continue services uninterrupted.
- vii. Tomorrow's Council work session will include a presentation on the development that is planned adjacent to Yeargan Park. Staff will bring more details to the committee.
- viii. The planned presentation by WithersRavenel to the committee was postponed.
- ix. Katie provided an overview of the Meadowbrook Dam project. PRCR hired an architect, followed by surveys and studies. The site analysis was completed in April and concepts were provided in May, along with a stakeholder meeting for those that live near the park. Ultimately, the pond will be drained, followed by a dry out period. The Town is working to open the bid to manage that process. Once the pond is dry, the earth work will begin to move towards developing a recreational amenity to include a smaller body of water.
 - 1. Tim Montgomery noted that of all the options, this route seems the smartest.
- x. Maria highlighted the report from the committee's comprehensive plan exercise and thanked the committee for their work.

b. Council Updates:

- 1. Council Member Dellinger thanked staff for the work on the Meadowbrook Dam project.

c. Announcements:

- i. None.

8. Other Business

i. Chair Durham asked for a motion to elect officers:

- 1. Ernestine reviewed nominations from the previous meeting, including Autumn Beam for Chair and Matt Davis for Vice Chair.
- 2. Ernestine opened the floor for a motion. The committee voted unanimously to elect Autumn Beam as Chair and Matt Davis as Vice Chair.

ii. The committee will break for summer July-August and agreed to continue with the third Monday of each month at 6pm pending verification of Town holidays. Tim motioned to approve and Hope seconded.

iii. Chair Durham shared that even though this is her last meeting, she still plans to be involved. She shared her gratitude for the committee's work.

b. Adjournment

- i. With no further business, Chair Durham asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Matt, seconded by Hope. Motion carried unanimously.
- ii. Meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.