

TOWN OF GARNER
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: November 20, 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 November 20, at 6pm at the Garner Recreation Center.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Autumn Beam called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. The committee members present were Autumn Beam, Hope Webber, Matt Davis, Tim Montgomery, Scott Bare, Mark Wood, Dr. LaPonda Edmondson, and Mon Peng Yueh. Staff members present were Maria Muñoz-Blanco, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Director, Martha Engeman, Marketing Coordinator, Todd Riddick, Recreation and Athletics Superintendent, and Megan Young, Operations Superintendent. Jo Cicci, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Liaison was also in attendance.
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Chair Beam asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Hope motioned to approve the agenda and Mark seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Approval of the June Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Chair Beam asked for any changes or a motion to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2023 meeting. No changes were noted. Motion to approve the minutes made by Scott, seconded by Mon Peng. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Petitions and Comments from the Public:
 - a. None.
5. Committee Members Concerns/Comments:
 - a. Skate park advocates reached out to staff regarding interest in the Town adding a skate park.
 - b. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson inquired about safety in parks. Maria noted Garner PD patrols our parks and coordinated installation of Flock cameras at some park locations. Staff do receive reports from Garner PD regarding incidents that occur on park properties.
 - i. Tim mentioned the committee's previous discussion regarding security cameras. Maria noted that the conversation and request was specific to the budget process. Maria shared an overview of types of incidents that have recently occurred, including vehicle break-ins and vandalism.
6. Senior Advisory Committee:
 - a. Jo Cicci, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee liaison, shared updates from their most recent meeting:
 - i. The last meeting was held on November 17, 2023.
 - ii. The newest member is Ernestine Ledbetter.
 - iii. The new pickleball system is working well.

- iv. There's an active tennis court poll regarding interest in reserving courts.
- v. Jennifer with Resources for Seniors reported Medicare enrollment ends December 7, the SHIPP calendar is full, and directories will still be printed. Next print date TBD.
- vi. 45 new members in September and 32 in October.
- vii. A final review of bylaw updates was completed, and the next step is to share those with Maria.

7. Reports/Discussion Items

- a. Director and Department Reports: Director Maria Muñoz-Blanco presented highlights from the monthly report, along with additional updates.
 - i. RFP for new park furnishings has closed and 5 bids were received.
 - ii. Today is the first day of Meadowbrook dam work.
 - iii. Power has been restored to South Garner Park tennis courts.
 - iv. Plans continue to move forward with Yeargan Park. 60% construction drawings were submitted last week. The next Council meeting presentation specific to Yeargan Park is planned for January 2024.
 - v. The first bond project, upgrades to Garner Rec Park, has been completed. Tim inquired about upgrades to other parks and Maria noted the Town will review each park's usable life and determine next best steps.
 - vi. Recap of holiday events and programs in December and a reminder the Christmas Parade is managed by the Garner Optimist Club.
 - vii. The Garner Recreation Center will be closed around the holidays for refinishing floors.
 - viii. Trick or Treat the Trail had to be moved to the Garner Recreation Center because of the weather and attendance was far more than expected for the modified event (estimated 2,500).
- b. No planning-related items, but there will likely be items for discussion at the next committee meeting which will also be discussed at tomorrow's Council meeting as part of a public hearing. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson inquired what the associated action will be, and Maria provided details on the process with developers, public hearings, Council, and Advisory Committee. Tim shared insight on current and past development projects. Jo asked which option (land dedication or fee and lieu) are more beneficial. Maria shared insight into the benefits of each.
- c. Tim shared with the committee that Avery Street Recreation Center was recently refurbished and looked great. Todd provided an overview of the upgrades.
- d. Martha presented information on the department's recently finalized Brand Style Guide, including logo updates, fonts, color palette, iconography, and overall guidance.
- e. Council Updates:
 - 1. Council Member Dellinger was not in attendance.

2. Maria noted Council has three meetings left this year. Maria along with Jodi Miller, Assistant Town Manager, will be presenting to Council on public art on November 28.

f. Announcements:

1. None.

8. Other Business

- i. The committee decided to move the tour to the spring and will discuss date options at the January meeting.

b. Adjournment

- i. With no further business, Chair Beam asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Tim, seconded by Matt. Motion carried unanimously.
- ii. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.