

TOWN OF GARNER
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: February 19, 2024

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 February 19, 2024 at the Garner Recreation Center.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Autumn Beam called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. The committee members present were Autumn Beam, Mark Wood, Hope Webber, Matt Davis, Dr. LaPonda Edmondson, and Mon Peng Yueh. Tim Montgomery was also present remotely. Staff members present were Maria Muñoz-Blanco, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Director, Todd Riddick, Recreation and Athletics Superintendent, Sara Shaw, Recreation Program Manager, Katie Lockhart, Parks and Nature Superintendent, and Megan Young, Operations Superintendent. Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Liaison Jo Cicci was also in attendance.
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Chair Beam asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Hope Webber motioned to approve the agenda and Mon Peng Yueh seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Approval of the December Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Chair Beam asked for any changes or a motion to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting. No changes were noted. Motion to approve the minutes made by Matt Davis, seconded by Tim Montgomery. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Petitions and Comments from the Public:
 - a. None.
5. Committee Members Concerns/Comments:
 - a. Tim Montgomery shared that the baseball fields/land dedication were no longer part of the Park at Garner Station development presented to the PRCR Committee's in December 2023.
 - i. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared insight into the status of the project and next steps. The project will be on an upcoming March Council agenda, possibly March 5. She noted that she will let the Committee know
 - ii. Mon Peng Yueh reiterated the need for clarity on process and the PRCR Committee's involvement.
 - iii. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared she'd follow back up with the committee with more information regarding the development plan as it becomes available.
 - iv. Tim Montgomery also shared with the Committee that Councilmember Singleton would not be at the meeting because of a family member being in the hospital.
6. Senior Advisory Committee:

- a. Jo Cicci, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee liaison, shared Garner Senior Center updates:
 - i. The next Senior Citizens Advisory Committee meeting is March 15.
7. Reports/Discussion Items
- a. Director and Department Reports:
 - i. Director Maria Muñoz-Blanco presented on the items reflected in the Director's Report, along with additional updates:
 - 1. PRCR presented on Yeargan Park at the Council budget retreat last week and shared an overview with the committee. A copy of the presentation will be sent to the committee.
 - a. Staff shared the team is being proactive with design to prevent vandalism.
 - b. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson asked about materials for seating and Maria noted there would be recycled plastic utilized for that type of park furnishings.
 - 2. Maria reminded the committee PRCR is on the Council agenda tomorrow for the design consultant contract for the GRC Playground project.
 - ii. Maria Munoz-Blanco presented the Kannan Property Townhomes project for consideration of fee-in-lieu. The site is 25.52 acres and is near the Town-owned Boling property, as well as the future Wake County Swift Creek Greenway.
 - 1. Staff recommendation for this project is to accept fee-in-lieu.
 - 2. Tim Montgomery noted the plan featured suitable open space for play and asked that this be noted in the comments sent back to the applicant.
 - 3. Motion to recommend fee-in-lieu by Matt Davis, seconded by Tim Montgomery. Motion carried unanimously.
 - iii. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared a resident approached the department regarding interest in donating art to recognize their family history. Copies of the proposed artwork were distributed to the Committee. She also shared information into Town policy regarding donations and asked for general input from the committee.
 - 1. Mon Peng Yueh asked if there were other options the family would consider and suggested an original piece.
 - 2. Matt Davis suggested the family consider sponsoring an amenity at Yeargan Park. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared that there will be sponsorship opportunities associated with Yeargan Park.
 - 3. Hope Webber noted her preference for the wind sculpture and suggested something original installed at GPAC or by the museum.
 - 4. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson also shared the preference for the wind sculpture and inquired as to whether the Town would be responsible for maintenance.

- a. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared the Town would typically handle maintenance for a structure like this.
 - b. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson also shared the Town of Cary has a lot of examples of public art and wind sculptures.
 5. Maria Munoz-Blanco will share committee feedback with the prospective donor.
- iv. Todd Riddick and Sara Shaw presented on program cost recovery for Recreation and Athletics.
 1. Todd Riddick shared an overview of the fee schedule and cost recovery.
 2. Sara Shaw shared an overview of Camp Kaleidoscope direct expenses, including staffing, contract services, and departmental supplies. Sara also shared an overview of revenue associated with each camp.
 - a. Todd Riddick reiterated the need for increased supplemental and seasonal pay rates to assist with recruiting. Todd also noted the change in registration process to give residents a week in advance to register.
 - b. Cost recovery for summer 2023 was 101%.
 3. Todd Riddick shared an overview of youth athletics summer expenses and revenue. He also shared an overview of Garner Senior Center (GSC) fitness passes and fitness room expenses and revenue.
 - a. Cost recovery for youth athletics summer 2023 was 87%. Cost recovery for GSC fitness passes and fitness room in fiscal year 2022-2023 was 119%.
 4. Dr. LaPonda Edmondson inquired about budget requests specific to increased costs for services.
 - a. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared an overview of the budget requests the department submitted as part of the fiscal year 2024-2025 process.
- v. Continuing the overall fiscal year 2024-2025 budget requests, Autumn Beam shared Tim Montgomery's feedback on the expansion requests and prioritization order. Tim Montgomery's recommended prioritizing taking care of current programs and staffing before adding staff.
 1. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared a general overview of the expansion requests, including why the Park and Greenways Planning Manager was prioritized by staff.
 - a. Mon Peng Yueh agreed with the need to have a dedicated PRCR staff member for capital projects.
 2. Hope Webber asked how supplemental/season hours are determined.

- a. Maria Munoz-Blanco shared an overview of how the averages are calculated, including the ACA 30 hours a week limit and the LGERS 1,000 hours/year max.
 - b. Council Updates:
 - 1. Council Member Singleton was not in attendance.
 - c. Announcements:
 - 1. None.
- 8. Other Business
 - i. The committee discussed tour options.
 - 1. Mark Wood can't make Saturdays. Other committee members shared they were available for both dates.
 - 2. Autumn Beam suggested April 13, 10am-12pm and the committee agreed.
 - b. Adjournment
 - i. With no further business, Chair Beam asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Mon Peng Yueh, seconded by Hope Webber. Motion carried unanimously.
 - ii. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.