



Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes January 19th, 2022

Call to order

The recent Park Advisory Board Meeting was held on January 19th, 2022 at the Hut Meeting Facility. The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm by Tristan McMannis and seconded by Barbara Manning.

Attendees

Matthew Jakubowski (Staff)

Kris McVey (Vice Chair)

Yvette Isaacs

Erin Hamilton (Staff)

Randy Brantley

Barbara Manning

Tristan McMannis (Chair)

Lorraine Haynes

Stacy Shatterly

Public Comment: None

Approval of minutes:

- i. Randy Brantley made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1st, 2021 meeting. Motion approved and seconded by Yvette Isaacs, ayes by all.

PPRAB Vacancies and Appointments:

- i. **Sue Bankston Resignation:** Sue Bankston has sadly resigned from PPRAB. We hate to see her go. Tristan and Erin sent emails to Sue thanking her for her service. We now have an open position if anyone knows of anyone who is interested in joining the board.

PPRAB Advocacy Priorities:

- i. **Review Master Plan and Establish Advocacy Priorities:** Tristan wants to always use the Master Plan as their tool to what we need, what the community needs, and priorities for the PPRAB. A big part of master plan is trails and that the Pineville residents want more trails. Matthew Jakubowski, Ryan Spitzer (Town Manager), and Jack Edwards (Mayor) were supposed to meet with Charlotte Catholic High School about their intentions on building fields at Jack Hughes Park but illness halted it. Charlotte Catholic did send plans for a football stadium and track around the stadium, locker rooms, and 8 tennis courts. Charlotte Catholic would build it and we would maintain it. They have a design and it's in the very early stages. We are hoping their field usage would not over cede the usage that Parks and Recreation would need. They would use it right after school and hopefully we would get it nights and weekends. Tristan asked is there any chance of having basketball courts intertwined on the tennis courts since there are outdoor basketball courts planned on the master plan. Many board members are concerned with the plan for Catholic to come in and build what the community doesn't want. The master plan shows that baseball fields were the most wanted athletic fields but with the Catholic plan, there are no baseball fields in the plan. Matt is trying to find land and asking Mecklenburg County to help us with buying land around Pineville for more parks. Lorraine asked about the land beside the post office that the Town owns. Matt

isn't sure if it's earmarked for anything else. Barbara mentioned how busy the batting cages are at Jack Hughes, and Stacy suggested building more batting cages.

Kimley Horn is in design with a trail to connect McCullough and Jack Hughes. Matt met with the Green Way people about the connection behind the dog park and they are getting started on it soon. Randy asked if the greenway will connect to Jack Hughes and it will not. The Jack Hughes leg will just connect to the McCullough neighborhood. It will be about 1 mile.

Land Acquisition is a major priority for the board. Two main focuses are neighborhood parks and land for baseball fields. Any new development needs to go along with the Master Plan. As more people move here, we need more recreation space to offer them. Lorraine thinks the BJCC needs to be updated and should be a top priority. Tristan thinks there is a disparity between the programs we offer and the programs the master plan says people want.

With the new town hall, would the old town hall and communications buildings be available for programming since they will be vacant? Tristan wants to always circle back to the master plan and priorities of the board.

- ii. **Future Steps to achieve advocacy priorities:** simple majority must be at the meeting and chair or vice chair must be present.
 - a. **Review of agenda template:** Everyone said the new template looks good and clear.
 - b. **Council and planning board meetings:** Tristan wants the board to know when the Town Council and Planning Board meetings are so a few PPRAB member can be present at the meetings. These board members can then give a recap at the PPRAB board meetings.
 - c. **Other items:** Lorraine asked if Matt if he will have a Catholic update before our next board meeting. Matt will send an update after their next meeting or at the next board meeting. Hopefully, we can send the board a copy of their design.

PPRAB Member Reports

- i. **Community Engagements:** Tristan suggested getting with an organization like the Tar Heel Trailblazers or Carolina Thread Trail to come and help us build trails at Jack Hughes Park. We want trails and a disc golf course so organizations like these can help us achieve what we want. We can reach out to these organizations and see if they are interested in helping us develop some trails. Hopefully we can get a disc golf course out there.

Park and Recreation Department: Upcoming Events/Programs

- i. Erin emailed the board members the past monthly reports so they are up to date about what has been scheduled and can ask questions accordingly.
- ii. **PPRAB Volunteering and Advocacy Opportunities:** Matt invited the PPRAB to help out at the Senior Valentines Banquet.
- iii. **Family Game Night:** We are having Disney Trivia on Friday January 21st. So far, we have 9 teams signed up.
- iv. **Winter Grab N Go:** Thursday January 27th.
- v. **Valentines Grab N Go:** February 10th.
- vi. **Senior Valentines Banquet:** is on Friday February 11th. The entertainment is Steve Brogan and we will be having an Italian dinner. Right now, we only have 62 signups. We are thinking of offering a to go option for people who do not or cannot join in person due to COVID-19.

- vii. **Senior Drive Thru:** will be on February 16th. It is National Almonds Day so they will get an almond treat.
- viii. **Family Game Night:** We are having Bingo on Friday, February 25th.
- ix. **Senior Drive Thru:** March 14th
- x. **St. Patrick's Grab N Go:** March 15th
- xi. **Family Game Night:** Trivia on March 25th
- xii. **Easter Egg Hunt:** April 9th
- xiii. **Arts in the Park Festival:** May 14th

Old Business

- i. **Review of draft changes to PPRAB Mission Statement and Bylaws:** Everyone thinks all of the changes are appropriate and show clarity. They talk more about advocacy and using the master plan as a guide. Everyone agrees to change the meetings to quarterly instead of every other month. Yvette asks about adding something in the bylaws about having special meetings periodically. **Randy makes a motion to approve bylaw changes with edits from meetings, Barbara seconded, all ayes.**
- ii. **Discussion of Attendance Log:** Unfortunately, due to lack of attendance, we will remove Tad Hardy from the board. We will start attendance log at the next meeting. Erin will notify Tad.

Open Discussion/Suggestions/Future Initiatives

- Randy asked what happened to the zip line. A part broke on it and we have ordered it. It should be in soon.
- Lorraine suggested trying to program more outside and getting more outdoor facilities, especially since Covid doesn't seem to be going away.
- We will post something about the two open spots on the board.
- Barbara thanks Tristan for all the work he has done as the new chair.

Schedule of Upcoming PPRAB Meetings: February, 16th, May 18th, August 17th, November 16th

Adjourn – Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lorraine Haynes seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.