

**TOWN OF CAROLINA SHORES
PARKS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
May 15, 2019
2:00 p.m.**

Town Planner Ami Ruland called the May 15, 2019 meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Jon advised the Parks Commission that because the Chairperson position is still vacant and the Vice Chairperson is absent, that the present members will need to elect a presiding chair for the meeting. At this time, Jon opened the floor for nominations for the presiding officer for the meeting. Member Lillis nominated Member Hanley. Member DiPaolo seconded the motion. Member Lillis called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Member Hanley called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Parks Commission Meeting. Member Hapner made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Member Lillis seconded the motion. Member Hanley called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote. At this time, Jon called point of order for The Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and there was a moment of silence.

Members present: Greg Hapner, William Hanley, Thomas DiPaolo, Ed Lillis. Also, present: Jon Mendenhall, Town Administrator, Ami Ruland, Town Planner, Sara Hammonds, Office Assistant/Commission Secretary, Beverly Mayhew, Commissioner. Members Absent: Brett Thomaswick. Others absent: Gail Treglia, Code Enforcement Officer.

Administrative Reports:

Ami Ruland, Town Planner, introduced herself. Ami gave an update on the concert that took place on May 10th on the Town Hall Green. Ami said that approximately 210 people attended the concert. Moving on to the Town Parks, Ami said that the developer is finalizing the construction agreement for both parts. The driveway at East Park is being permitted. At the South Park, trees are being removed, Brunswick Electric is removing the power, and the sewer is being worked on.

Jon said that Ami is the Town Planner and will be the employee with the Town working on the Parks Commission and also on the Planning Board. Jon said that Sandy Wood, the Inspections and Construction Superintendent, is Ami's supervisor. Jon added that the Parks Commission will have events input and can discuss the concert and future desires of the Parks Commission that will be taken to the Board of Commissioners for review. Jon said that since there is no new business today, the next meeting of the Parks Commission will be sometime in August. Jon said that for the Parks Commission to take the lead on planning for future events, a special called meeting will probably be necessary.

Jon said that the Chairperson position for the Parks Commission is vacant and the remaining members of the Parks Commission need to elect this position, especially since the Vice Chair is absent. Jon said there is a person in attendance today who is interested in joining the Parks Commission and that he and Ami will be meeting with her after the meeting to discuss her filling the seat for the Carolina Shores subdivision. Member Hanley asked Jon how the Parks Commission fills the seat. Jon said that the other currently empty seat on the Parks Commission

would need to be filled by a resident in The Farm at Brunswick. Member Hapner asked Jon if there is supposed to be one representative from each community in Carolina Shores and Jon said that is correct. Jon said that Member Hapner is the representative from the Planning Board. Member Lillis told Member Hapner that since he lives in The Farm at Brunswick, he can ask around to see if anyone is interested in the open seat. Member Hapner said that he will reach out to residents in his community to see if someone would like to fill that seat. Member Hapner said he will also reach out to Member Thomaswick regarding his absence. Jon said that Member Thomaswick's job is weather-dependent, and that is probably why he is absent today. Member Hapner said that he knows of some residents in The Farm at Brunswick that would like to volunteer their time for events.

Member Hanley asked Jon what else is needed of the Parks Commission. Jon asked the Parks Commission if they have any ideas for more events in the future. Jon added that an event subcommittee could be created. Member DiPaolo asked how many concerts are to be held this year. Jon said that the Board of Commissioners approved 1 spring concert and 1 fall concert. Commissioner Mayhew said that Commissioner Dale's idea was that if the spring concert went well that the Board of Commissioners would entertain the idea of having another concert in the fall. There is lengthy discussion on the difference in September and October for having a concert regarding hurricane season. Member Lillis made a motion for the Parks Commission to recommend that the Board of Commissioners hold their next concert in October 2019. Member Hapner seconded the motion. Member Hanley called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Member Hapner asked if Gail and Commissioner Dale set up the last concert. Jon said yes, but the Board of Commissioners is adamant that the Parks Commission take on a bigger role in planning the concerts. Member Hanley said that the Parks Commission needs to fill its empty seats and then work on appointing an events subcommittee. Member Hapner asked if the special called meeting for the next concert should be schedule today. Jon said that it'd be better to wait until around 90 days out from the concert. Jon said that the Board of Commissioners has a good template for how to run the concerts and that they have stopped having food and drinks served at the concerts. Jon said that \$3,000 is budgeted for each event. Ami said that the last band was \$950 and the tent rental was \$160. Jon said that with all costs considered, the cost per event is between \$1,300-1,400. Jon said a date for the October concert will need to be decided and that Friday worked well.

Member Hanley said that he thinks that Jon and the staff know better than the Parks Commission on what's needed and he thinks the staff should do the planning. Jon said that the Parks Commission is to give its recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. There is lengthy discussion the band from the last concert and the bands that are local to the area.

Member Lillis asked if the greenway can be discussed. Member Lillis said that his wife is the Beacon Townes POA President. Member Lillis said that the Beacon Townes walking trail is on their property and there is a concern about impervious surface area. Jon said that the trail that the Town has installed is impervious but he can look into doing a natural trail. Jon said that pervious paving is pricey but could be a future option. Jon said he will talk to the Town Engineer and see what they recommend. Member Lillis said that he thinks every member of the Parks Commission should go to their POA to discuss the greenway. Member Hapner asked Jon if the trail at the Farm

at Brunswick and the town's greenway will connect and Jon said yes, eventually. Jon asked Ami to put a field trip on the next Parks Commission agenda so that they can go out and look at the greenway.

Member Hapner asked Jon if the Board of Commissioners has discussed having a movie night. Jon said no, the Parks Commission needs to make a formal recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. There is lengthy discussion on movie nights in surrounding towns. Jon asked Ami to contact neighboring towns to get information on what they do for their movie nights and to bring back that information to the next Parks Commission meeting.

Public Comment:

Mary Conover, 3 Lakeview Court: Ms. Conover asked if the book that everyone has at their seats has the greenway in it. Ami said yes and it will be available online soon. Ms. Conover asked if anyone can clarify the locations of the dog parks. Ami said that East Park will have a dog park. Member Hapner said he thought both parks were going to have a dog park. Ami said just East Park on Thomasboro Road will have a dog park. Ms. Conover asked if there will be any public input on the parks and amenities. Jon said by the end of the calendar year. Member Lillis said that at the last meeting, Commissioner Dale said he would be recommending a dog park at both park locations.

Elizabeth Betito, 13 Lakeview Court: Ms. Betito said that up north, dog parks require a registration and they are given a code lock. Ms. Betito said that you have to provide proof that your dog is spayed or neutered and has shots. Ms. Betito said she is aware of a dog attack at the Shallotte dog park and knows that a lot of people are against dog parks because of the incidents. Ms. Betito said that the dog parks need to be appealing to people with agility courses, and that would attract more people to move to the area. Ms. Betito said the dog park should be for residents only, which gives the Town control on who uses the park. Ms. Betito said the dog park also needs more than just a chain link fence and dog bowls. Member Lillis said that he understands Ms. Betito's concerns and asked how would registration work. Ms. Betito said it could all be online or a vet could supply the records. Member Lillis said does this exist now. Ms. Betito said no but she knows that doggy daycares require this information. Ms. Betito said the doggy daycare websites could show the Town what they could use on their website. Ami said that the POA's require dogs to be registered but she doesn't know who at the Town would keep up with that.

Member Lillis made a motion to postpone any discussion on implementing or upgrading the dog park. Ami said she can do some research and bring it back to the Parks Commission. Member Hapner said that Calabash has a dog park and we could ask them. Jon said that there was a recent dog attack at the golf course and that the dog park would be a "use at your own risk" facility. Jon said that all criminal complaints need to go to the police. Jon said that Ami is the liaison to the Parks Commission, as well as Sandy, so she is the point of contact with the Town. Jon said that name plates need to be ordered so that the public knows the names of the Parks Commission members as well as staff. Member Hanley said he'd feel better if the full Parks Commission is present and they have public input. There is no second to Member Lillis's motion and the motion falls to the floor.

Member Hapner said that he wants to see bigger bands come to the concerts, even if they cost more. Jon said that stage problems may keep some big bands out. Member Hapner asked how the Town's stage area compares to those in other areas and Jon said it's about half the size.

Adjourn:

Member Lillis made a motion to adjourn the May 15, 2019 Parks Commission meeting. Member Hapner seconded the motion. Member Hanley called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Presiding Officer Bill Hanley

Submitted by:

Sara Hammonds, Office Assistant