

TOWN OF CAROLINA SHORES
PARKS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 21, 2019
2:00 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Thomaswick called the August 21, 2019 meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and there was a moment of silence.

Town Clerk Nicole Hewett gave the Oath of Office to new member Paul Richards.

Other members present: Greg Hapner, William Hanley, Thomas DiPaolo, Ed Lillis. Also, present: Sandy Wood, Inspections and Construction Superintendent, Sara Brumm, Office Assistant/Commission Secretary, Mayor Joyce Dunn, Gere Dale, Commissioner, Gail Treglia, Code Enforcement Officer.

Vice Chairperson Thomaswick asked the Parks Commission if they have read over the minutes from the last meeting. Member Hanley made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2019 Parks Commission Meeting. Member Hapner seconded the motion. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick called for a vote and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

Inspections and Construction Superintendent Sandy Wood introduced himself to the Parks Commission. Mr. Wood stated that since the previous Town Planner has resigned, he will be doing the administrative reports until that position is filled.

Mr. Wood said that as far as the parks are concerned, things are moving slower than anticipated. Mr. Wood said that the East Park was designed to have a single grinder pump by East Coast Engineering, but NCDENR denied that design, saying that a dual grinder pump is needed. Mr. Wood said the dual pump will cost more but it won't slow down construction. Mr. Wood said that the Town is still waiting on design and engineering from East Coast Engineers on both parks. Mr. Wood said once that is received and approved by the Board of Commissioners, then we can move forward. Mr. Wood said that South Park will need to be cleared of trees, but East Park does not. Mr. Wood said that driveway permits have been sent to NCDOT. Mr. Wood said that NCDOT asked if the Town would hold the bond on the driveways until they are completed.

Mrs. Treglia said that since the Town Planner resigned, she has been put back in charge of planning the concerts. Mrs. Treglia said that there will be a concert on Monday, September 16th with the Sun and Sand Band. Mrs. Treglia said that the band will play for 1.5 to 2 hours. Mrs. Treglia gave the Parks Commission members flyers to distribute and said that she will have some volunteers helping. Commissioner Dale said that there will be free popcorn as well. Member DiPaolo asked Mrs. Treglia if there will be a bus available for transportation. Mrs. Treglia said no, especially since the last concert was well attended and the parking lot was sufficient. Member Hapner said he thought the concert was going to be later in the year in October. Mrs. Treglia said that October has historically been a time of bad weather for the area so the concert was scheduled for September.

Vice Chairperson Thomaswick asked what he missed at the last meeting. Member Hapner said a field trip was discussed so that the Parks Commission could see the greenway. Member Hapner said it'd be better to do that during cooler weather, perhaps at the next meeting.

Member Lillis said that he'd like to bring up that the only way to exit Beacon Townes is at Highway 17, which makes it difficult to reach the parks or walking trails on foot or on a bike. Member Lillis said that there should be pedestrian access to the parks and trails instead of having to drive to them. Member Hapner said he doesn't think it's in the plan currently, but the goal is to have the Town connected by walking trails. Member Hapner asked Commissioner Dale if that is the vision of the Town. Commissioner Dale said ultimately someday, and also to have the trails connect to the National Maine to Key West Greenway, but it won't happen overnight. Commissioner Dale said hopefully the residents that back up to the Greenway will be okay, because a privacy issue has been brought up. Member Hapner said now that the Senior Center is in Calabash, it'd be a good idea to have connecting trails. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said the parks won't have very many parking spaces, so if everyone has to drive to them, that could become a problem.

New Business:

Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said there is no new business on the agenda for today. Member Hapner asked Mr. Wood if there has been any word on having a movie night. Member Hapner said that Ami was supposed to be checking into it. Mr. Wood said that he will check into it. Member Hapner said he knows there's not a lot of children in the Town. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that we can try a movie night but he's not sure about turnout.

Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that he was reading the minutes from the May meeting about the discussion regarding dog parks. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that it's hard to please everyone and we wouldn't be able to keep non-residents from using the facility. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that there is always a risk involved when using a dog park and that you just hope that all the dogs have had their rabies shot.

Public Comment:

John Williams, 33 Gate 6: Mr. Williams said that he has looked for the Master Plan online and he can't find it, as well as the survey results from the survey that went out. Mr. Williams said that he wants to look at the proposal and wants to learn more. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that the Parks Commission got quite a few responses on the survey. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick said that several items that were high on the list from the results were walking trails, bike trails, a pavilion, dog parks, picnic shelters, pickle ball, and bocce ball. Mayor Dunn said that she will find out where the Master Plan is on the website.

Tom Walker, Gate 4: Mr. Walker said he is new to the area. Mr. Walker said he'd like to know what the time frame is on the parks. Mr. Wood said we are shooting for November. Mr. Walker said he knows there's not a lot of children around but he has grandchildren and would like there to be somewhere where they can play. Mr. Wood said that playground equipment isn't planned but he can look into it. Mr. Walker said that he and his wife like to walk, but she

has a handicap, and it isn't safe for her to cross Country Club Road. Mr. Walker said are there any plans for sidewalks. Mr. Wood said no. Commissioner Dale said that sidewalks have been brought up 2 to 3 times in the last 10 years, but the Town Engineers have always put the kibosh on them because of the drainage system. Commissioner Dale said that it doesn't mean that it'll be that way forever. Mr. Walker said he'd like to see the plans and see where the walking trails will go. Mr. Wood said he will get a map.

Member Lillis said his community is having a problem with the Greenway because it would add too much impervious surface area. Member Lillis said the Town Administrator said he would look into an alternative surface. Mr. Wood said that pervious surfaces are much more expensive than impervious surfaces.

Member Hapner asked if the Commissioners have discussed the privacy issue that has been brought up, because he thinks that the residents of the Carolina Shores POA area can dictate what the Town does. Commissioner Dale said that he has not seen many people walking on the trail that backs up to those properties where people have expressed concern about privacy. Commissioner Dale said he senses that during the next stretch we may hear some complaints, but it's not a major concern. Commissioner Dale said it may entail a meeting with those residents, but its Town property. Commissioner Dale said it's an educational process.

Member Hapner said there is a basketball court by the pool in the Carolina Shores POA area and asked if that is just for those residents. Mayor Dunn said yes, but no one is over there checking ID's. Mayor Dunn said it's recently been repaved and a nice pavilion was just built.

Adjourn:

Member Lillis made a motion to adjourn the August 21, 2019 Parks Commission meeting. Member Hapner seconded the motion. Vice Chairperson Thomaswick called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:34 pm.

Vice Chairperson Brett
Thomaswick

Submitted by:

Sara Brumm, Office Assistant