Parks Commission Meeting
May 15, 2019 2:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Moment of Silence

Call to Order

I. Approval of Minutes
   1. Approval of Minutes: February 20, 2019

II. Administrative Reports
   2. Staff Report

III. New Business: N/A

IV. Public Comment

Adjournment

TOWN OF CAROLINA SHORES
PARKS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2019
2:00 p.m.

Town Administrator Jon Mendenhall called the February 20, 2019 meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Jon advised the Parks Commission that Chairperson Janet Vetrano has resigned her position. Jon said the Vice Chairperson is absent today so the present Parks Commission members will need to elect a presiding officer. 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, Sara Hammonds, Office Assistant/Commission Secretary, Gere Dale, Commissioner. Members Absent: Brett Thomaswick. Others absent: Gail Treglia, Code Enforcement Officer.

At this time, Jon opened the floor for nominations for the presiding officer for the meeting. Member Hanley nominated Member Hapner. Member DiPaolo seconded the motion. Member Hanley called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes:

Member Hanley made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 2018 special called meeting and the November 2018 regular meeting. Member Lillis seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

Jon gave a brief update since the special called meeting that was scheduled last week couldn't take place because there was no quorum. Jon said that the present members wanted to recommend to have the Parks and Recreation Plan go to the Board of Commissioners for approval. Jon said that because there needs to a 10 day notice published in the newspaper for the hearing, the hearing will have to be April 4th, 2019 at 2 pm. Jon said the Town Clerk will issue the notice, and now that there is a quorum present, the item can be approved during the Master Plan update.

At this time, Jon asked Commissioner Dale if he had anything he'd like to discuss with the Parks Commission. Jon added that the other Board Liaison, Commission Beverly Mayhew, had a death in the family, and therefore couldn't attend today's meeting. Commissioner Dale said that he didn't have much to discuss but he did want to make sure that the concert series for the year was an important item that is worked on. Commissioner Dale said he'd like to increase the number of concerts that take place this calendar year. Commissioner Dale said spring and fall will be the best time for the concerts to take place, perhaps April and June in the spring and September and October in the fall. Commissioner Dale added that he'd like the green space and both parks to take form by summer so that specific activities can be planned there. Commissioner Dale said that he has had a number of people ask about a dog park and where it will go and when it will be open. Jon said that the builder of Lighthouse Cove Phase 2 will be building a picnic shelter, a pickle ball court, a horseshoes area, and a parking lot at both parks. Jon said that Commissioner Dale can ask the

Board of Commissioners to consider adding a dog park at the Board's budget retreat. Member Hanley said he would like to know if other areas have a dog park currently and if the Parks Commission could talk to them about it before building on here. Commissioner Dale said it'd cost very little money and very little effort, because all it would need is a fence and a sign or two. There is discussion on area dog parks and the amenities they have. Jon said that the Parks and Recreation Plan envisions many things, but not every resident wants everything. Member DiPaolo said that from the Parks Plan survey, 43% of people who responded said they wanted a dog park. Member Hapner asked Jon how soon will there be drawings of the parks. Jon said that he should have them by the end of the month. Jon added that walking trails were the top priority and those are already in progress. Jon said Commissioner Dale can carry recommendations from the Parks Commission to the Board of Commissioners at their budget retreat, and once approved it may be 6-12 months before implementation. Commissioner Dale said his personal feeling is that bocce ball is needed because it's easy for the elderly and not expensive to implement. There is lengthy discussion on bocce ball.

Member Hanley made a motion to have both a dog park and a bocce ball court added to both parks. Member DiPaolo seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

At this time, Jon said that a greenway recommendation is needed and asked Commissioner Dale if he had any thoughts. Commissioner Dale asked everyone if they knew what is currently planned. Jon pointed the Parks Commission members to Chapter 3 in their book, to map 3. Member DiPaolo asked Jon if the greenway is the green dotted line and Jon said yes, and that the purple line is what's already been built. Commissioner Dale said the greenway needs to be connected with the leg that's in the Farm at Brunswick, but that there's a problem moving south because several adjacent residents disapprove of the greenway, and there's also water in the way. Commissioner Dale said he needs the Parks Commission to recommend the greenway so that he can present it to the Board of Commissioners. Member Hapner asked about the residents who are not favorable for the greenway. Commissioner Dale said the objection is that the greenway would back up to their backyards but that he's not sure there's that many objections, maybe 2-3 people. Commissioner Dale said logistically, there are sewer lines in the way and a bridge that will be needed to cross water, but that it may have to be a 3rd phase. Commissioner Dale said ultimately he would like the greenway to go to the South Carolina state line. Member Hapner asked if all of the greenway is on town property. Jon said yes, it is.

Member Hapner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that phase 2 of the greenway from Persimmon Road to the Farm at Brunswick be built. Member Lillis seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Dale said he doesn't want the concerts to be forgotten. Jon said they will be discussed during the calendar updates. Jon said at this time, this concludes the staff report.

New Business:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Jon said that the consensus of the present members of the Parks Commission last week was to recommend the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the Board of Commissioners. Jon said because the meeting did not take place, there was no formal motion, which is needed. Member Hanley made a motion to make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners that they adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Member Lillis seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Jon said the public hearing for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan will take place on April 4, 2019 at 2 pm.

Calendar of Events

Jon said that the Parks Commission meets quarterly, but Commissioner Dale would like concerts to take place in April and June. Jon said since the Parks Commission doesn't meet again until May, the Parks Commission needs to discuss these items now so that volunteers and officials can be on board. Commissioner Dale said there were 2 concerts last year, and that the 1st concert was sparsely attended and that the 2nd one was better, but still disappointing. Commissioner Dale said it's important to try to continue to get interest and participation. Commissioner Dale said that both bands at each concert were good but that Gail had a list of other bands that could be considered. Commissioner Dale would like the Parks Commission to promote 2 spring concerts and 2 fall concerts. Commissioner Dale said the green space at Town Hall can accommodate 300-400 people on the lawn and it's a good opportunity for people to hear music, mingle, and eat. Member DiPaolo asked if the concerts were advertised in the Brunswick Beacon. Commissioner Dale said no because the programs weren't set in time to advertise. Commissioner Dale said flyers were passed out at the recycle center but he thought they were passed out too late. Member DiPaolo asked if the Parks Commission can spend money to advertise in the Brunswick Beacon. Commissioner Dale said that if we advertise well at the recycle center, 70% of the residents can be reached. Member Hapner asked if the concerts are open to everyone or just residents of the town. Jon said the concerts are open to anyone but if free food is served, it requires a ticket, and it's for residents only. Member Hanley said that April may be too cold and thought that warmer weather would be better for the concerts. Commissioner Dale said that April has good weather. Jon said that a date can't be selected right now, and that the Parks Commission can just recommend the amount for spending and the general times. Jon said the cost per concert is approximately $2,500. Commissioner Dale said that a bus is needed if the anticipated crowd is big and that it costs approximately $500. Commissioner Dale said there are approximately 150 parking spaces on site and approximately 200 spaces at Novant.

Member Hapner made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that 4 concerts take place in 2019, 2 in the spring and 2 in the fall. Member DiPaolo seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Member Hanley asked if the concerts are to take place on a certain day of the week. Commissioner Dale said that the previous concerts have been on 2 different days of the week but that we need to be flexible, and also have rain dates scheduled.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn:

Member DiPaolo made a motion to adjourn the February 20, 2019 Parks Commission meeting. Member Lillis seconded the motion. Member Hapner called for a vote and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Presiding Officer Greg Hapner

Submitted by:
Sara Hammonds, Office Assistant