



City of Boiling Spring Lakes

**9 East Boiling Spring Road
Boiling Spring Lakes, NC 28461**

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2017
6:30 P.M.
Community Center**

ATTENDANCE: L. Paige Garza, Co-Chair, Bruce Pennington, Bon Cantrell,
Carolyn Doshier, Kay Talbott

ABSENT: Bob Stanley (excused)

Commissioner Liaison: Mary Stilwell (absent/excused)

Staff: Mary Green ~ P&R Director, Pamela Bellina ~ Administrative Assistant

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Paige Garza at 6:32 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Carolyn Doshier and seconded by Kay Talbott to approve the agenda as written.

Vote: 5 - 0; Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bon Cantrell and seconded by Kay Talbott to approve the December 21, 2016 minutes as written.

Vote: 5 - 0; Motion Carried

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- **Facilities Subcommittee**
 - **Dog Park Subcommittee**
- **Communications Subcommittee**
- **Department Subcommittee**

The only subcommittee discussed was the Dog Park Subcommittee. Carolyn reported that no one from the dog park subcommittee appeared at their scheduled meeting other than her and Kay Talbott from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Paige was under the impression the dog park subcommittee meetings were for the public, not the Advisory Board and she was disappointed they did not meet. Carolyn will speak with the subcommittee to have them gather the public interested in the dog park at their next meeting to start moving things forward. Mary asked if the dog park subcommittee was stuck on finding a location first before they move forward. Carolyn did not think they were stuck about location but they need to know a location to start determining how much fencing and what else will be needed. Mary suggested the subcommittee not concentrate on city-owned parcels but find a parcel that maybe the City could trade. The members were not in favor of that scenario as they thought it was too much to go through. Bon spoke with Commissioner Putnam who was not for the dog park but would listen and consider their presentation. Bon does not believe the Board of Commissioners will consider the dog park if their questions are not answered but noted most of the answers are available at other dog parks. He also thought if the dog park was located too close to houses, the BOC will say no.

Paige asked if the BOC would consider allowing dogs at other parks or lakes if they will not consider a dog park. Mary said she did not believe they would consider that allowance since they just changed the ordinance recently to not allow dogs in any of the parks except North Lake.

Mary asked if the dog park subcommittee knew what they wanted in the dog park and what size park they wanted. Carolyn said they wanted two separate fenced sides to the park with a double gated entry and would like it to be located on water but apparently there are alligator concerns. Paige thought if a location could be found without water maybe that would entice the BOC to consider the park.

Carolyn thought the subcommittee might be losing momentum but she would be in touch with the subcommittee and try to rally them together.

V. Old Business

a. North Lake Park ~ hours and lighting

Mary advised that next Thursday the Board of Commissioners was holding a workshop and one of the topics was North Lake Park hours and lighting. Mary put together a package for the members to review which encompassed adding lighting to the park to address safety and security issues as well extending the hours of the park to accommodate peak fishing time. Also in the package was a letter from Chief Shirley supporting the proposed lighting design for the park

as it will provide a layer of safety for visitors to the park. There is a design layout of where the lights would be strategically located. Duke Energy designed the layout which will include seven lights – five LED 75 lights along Lakeview Road and by the portable toilet and two LED 105 lights in the darker area of the parking lot. If the City wanted less light poles, there would be a one-time cost of \$521 per pole to accommodate underground wiring. Mary asked Bon to update the recommendation memo he prepared to match the new hours and number of light poles as Mary wanted that recommendation included with the proposal to the BOC. Mary also noted that LED solar lights will be added to the fishing pier. It will not light up the pier but it will allow enough light so people can see where they are walking.

Changing the hours of the park will require an ordinance change which means a public hearing is needed. Mary proposed changing the park's hours to 5:00 AM to Midnight. Those hours are easiest to enforce without residents having to know summer hours and winter hours.

b. Proposed Dog Park Location Suggestions

This topic was discussed above under subcommittee reports.

VI. Public Comment

None

VII. New Business

a. Langbeen Conservation Property Donation

Mary prepared a memo outlining the Langbeen Conservation Property for the members. She advised Langbeen Builders is developing a subdivision in the City called South Shore Landing which consists of approximately 47 lots and will be located along Eden Drive, Forest Lake Road, South Shore Drive and Nicklaus Road. Because of the red cockaded woodpecker and wetlands, approximately 17+ acres of the development must be placed in permanent conservation. The developer does not want to hold onto this conservation land but wants to donate it. The land is governed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife because of the woodpeckers and the developer has asked the City, Coastal Land Trust, NC Wildlife Commission, Nature Conservancy and others if they would like to take over this conservancy property. Coastal Land Trust agreed to take over the conservation for \$100,000. U.S. Fish and Wildlife requires the land to be bush hogged approximately every four years which would fall on whomever should take over the land. U.S. Fish and Wildlife has determined the land is suitable for passive recreation development such as nature trails but has not said no to a dog park on the property.

Bruce asked if the developer would consider saving one lot for the City to have access to the land which the committee discussed at length. Mary advised that South Shore is ground zero for the woodpeckers so access is not allowed there and agrees that one or two lots would be needed for access and parking in order to make this conservancy land a viable recreation area for the City. Bruce also asked if the Developer wants a dog park because that would be important for

homebuyers to know what the conservation area would have located on it. Mary advised the developer does know we want nature trails.

The members discussed at length the pros and cons of the City acquiring this land with the consensus being, they would recommend accepting the donated conservancy land but with the request of including one or two lots for access and parking. The members thought that Eden Road would be the best area for access. Bon looked up some of the land value in that area and concluded that \$10,000 is the approximate value of a buildable lot. Bruce suggested that Mary find out if parking would be allowed in the residential area as that would be an integral part of the land access. Mary also advised that grant opportunities exist through many agencies should the City acquire this property. She further advised that, should the developer not want to include one or two lots for access/parking, a grant from PARTF (Parks & Recreation Trust Fund) with a match from the City could cover half of the purchase price of the lots. Mary further advised there are very strong partnership opportunities that would exist with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Coastal Land Trust, NC Wildlife Commission and the Nature Conservancy should the City acquire this conservancy land.

Paige and Bon agreed to work together in writing the recommendation to be presented by Mary to the Board of Commissioners at the workshop.

b. Subcommittee Goals

- **Facilities Subcommittee**
 - **Dog Park Subcommittee**
- **Communications Subcommittee**
- **Department Subcommittee**

The goal was to help the dog park subcommittee get ready for their presentation to the BOC in March. Bon advised he is still working on skate park information and inquired from Mary whether the basketball hoop at Schneider's Park had a lot of activity because he thought that might be a good area to put a skate park. Mary said the playground is used but the drawback would be having a skate park, which caters to older children, next to playground which caters to younger children with the drawback being the older kids often use bad language.

VIII. Next Meeting Agenda Items

North Lake Park ~ hours and lighting ~ update
Langbein Conservation Property Donation ~ update
Dr. Herstine Presentation ~ Parks & Recreation Master Plan

IX. Announcements

There were no announcements made at the meeting.

X. Adjourn

A Motion was made by Bruce Pennington and seconded by Kay Talbott to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM.

Vote: 5 – 0; Motion carried.

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Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Bellina
Administrative Assistant