

**VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL**  
**PARKS & RECREATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
January 19, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.  
6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, N.C. 28104

**Committee Members Present:** Chair; Pat Utley, John Lepke, Julie Brown

**Committee Members Absent:** Jerry Davis

**Staff:** Administrative Assistant; Lynell Hillhouse

**Liaisons:** Council Member; Elaine Rosoff, Council Member; Mike Como

**Others Present:** Mayor; Brad Horvath, Pam King, Herb Godwin, Peter Cronos, Cameron Michael, (and mother) Ben Godby, Will Godby, and Rebecca Godby.

**CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND / OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Lepke made a motion to approve the agenda with the following additions to Unfinished Business;

F. Water stand pipe location

G. Easter Egg Hunt (in conjunction with Southbrook Church)

H. Membership promotion

*Altering original item G now*

I. Geocaching

Ms. Brown seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM 12/17/2014 MEETING**

Mr. Lepke made a motion to approve the December 15, 2014 minutes; Ms. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Brad Horvath discussed the recent results from the D.I.A.L.O.G. survey that was conducted with the input of staff, council, committee and board members. He reported that 26 out of 42 responses were received, highlighting the need for improving communication between all boards and committees.

Mayor Horvath made mention of the upcoming 5km event held at Dogwood Park on Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup> commencing at 8:00 a.m.

Mayor Horvath concluded his address by notifying the committee of the resignation of Gayla Adams who was an alternate on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

*Secretary's note: Mayor Horvath excused himself from the meeting at this point.*

Eagle Scout Cameron Michael with Troop 140 addressed the committee with the proposal of constructing six picnic tables for Dogwood Park as his Eagle Scout project. All of the tables would be constructed off site then delivered to the park, with one table being ADA compliant. Cameron would be responsible for all the fundraising needs for the project.

Council Liaison Como offered to introduce Cameron to the Manager at Lowe's Hardware in Waxhaw. Lowe's has been gracious with their assistance in the past and may offer the opportunity to lower costs of materials significantly for the project.

Eagle Scout Ben Godby with Troop 53 addressed the committee with the proposal of constructing a monument sign for Dogwood Park as his Eagle Scout project. As Ben was in the beginning stages of his project he was seeking a verbal approval from the committee that a monument sign would be welcomed so he could then report to his Scout Council to seek their approval of the project.

Discussion took place regarding the number, location and materials of the signs. Ben informed the committee that once the project had been approved by the Scout Council he would then return to the committee with a more detailed design, timeline and cost estimate.

Administrative Assistant Lynell Hillhouse was directed to notify both the Clerk and Town Planner of the project who would in turn notify Ben of any permitting requirements that maybe needed. Although permitting would be the responsibility of the Village, Ben did need to be made aware of any regulations he would need to adhere to.

Mr. Lepke motioned to allow Ben Godby to move forward with the monument sign project; Chair Utley seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Herb Godwin was present to give feedback about Dogwood Park. Mr. Godwin is very knowledgeable about birds and offered advice to the committee regarding birds, wood duck boxes, bird houses, appropriate plantings and Canadian Geese prevention.

Mr. Godwin also suggested to the committee the installation of exercise stations throughout the park and was pleased to announce he would be installing a distance sign which would allow park users to know how many laps equaled one mile the next day.

Peter Crones was present to express to the committee the delight that he and his granddaughters have experienced at the park. Mr. Crones asked the committee about the potential of extending the current walking trail.

Pam King was present to express her pride of the park to the committee. Council Liaison Rosoff had invited Ms. King to attend the meeting in hopes she would consider becoming a member.

The committee expressed their gratitude to all public speakers on their input and invited them to consider serving on the Park and Recreation Committee as there are currently three voting positions and two alternate positions vacant.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **5K WALK/RUN**

The Youth Advisory Council along with Council Liaison Kenary were responsible for all aspects of the event.

### **PARK MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS**

Mr. Lepke notified the committee that he had reviewed and submitted information to be included in a potential RFP for both the Park and Town Hall facility. Currently Town Administrator Bennett was merging Mr. Lepke's suggestions along with suggestions from Council Member Kenary. The committee reached the consensus to move forward with the RFP process then compare costs against hiring a part time town maintenance employee. They would like to present both options to the Council for discussion and possible action with actual figures. The preparation of a job description for a part time employee was made mention by Council Liaison Como.

### **POTENTIAL EAGLE SCOUT STAIRCASE PROJECT**

Due to recent developments regarding the potential staircase project Council Liaison Como recommended the item to be tabled until the next meeting. The item was up for discussion at tomorrow's Town Council meeting. The recent developments were related to permitting.

### **FISHING PIER KIOSK**

Council Liaison Como informed the committee that the Council had unanimously agreed to accept the kiosk at no charge to the Village of Wesley Chapel.

### **DOG PARK**

Council Liaison Como announced the dog park was open and being utilized. The dog park rules and regulations signs had been approved by the Council and installed at the park. Ms. Brown offered to make inexpensive signs for the two dog areas noting which area was for dogs 20+ and 20- pounds. It was agreed that "Park is open from sunrise to sunset" signs were also needed. The committee expressed their desire to display a plaque to honor the Girl Scouts in appreciation of their hard work pertaining to the dog park.

### **WATER STAND PIPE LOCATION**

Discussion took place regarding the location of the water stand pipe needed at the park. Currently there is \$4000.00 budgeted for the project. As tap fees for the current meter are very high Chair Utley suggested to the committee to locate the water stand pipe as close to the parking lot as possible. She would like to see how far the budgeted amount would allow piping to travel up the driveway. Council Liaison Como recommended the installation of water igloos used at golf courses within the dog park and would research both the fees involved for the igloos and tap fees.

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Chair Utley informed the committee she had been approached by Sondra to allow Southbrook Church to hold an Easter egg hunt on Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> at Dogwood Park. The event would last one-two hours with attendance expected in the 500-1000 range. Mr. Lepke motioned in favor of the event; Ms. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Council Liaison Como made mention he would discuss the event with the Town Council.

### **MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION**

Chair Utley recommended this item be added to the next meeting.

### **GEOCACHING**

Chair Utley was pleased to inform the committee that two geocaches were currently in the process of being registered and under review with the potential for two more in the future.

### **OTHER**

Mr. Lepke asked Administrative Assistant Lynell Hillhouse to contact the local newspaper to advertise the scheduled monthly work day two weeks prior to each event.

Council Liaison Como reviewed budget line items with the committee. Due to a number of donations not all funds have been used in numerous accounts and suggested to either seek approval to move balances to different line items or prioritize and complete projects with available funds. Additionally, there is \$9450.00 reserved for future park improvements. Council Liaison Como reminded the committee if it was not used by the end of the financial year would be transferred back into the general fund. He strongly suggested to the committee that they look at the budget and focus efforts to maximize all funds available and that he will be notifying the Council on the costs involved for installing and maintaining a call box at the park for emergencies.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **MONUMENT SIGN- Ben Godby**

*See Public Comments*

### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

None were given

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Brown motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Lepke seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*s/ Lynell Hillhouse*  
Lynell Hillhouse, Secretary

*s/ Pat Utley*  
Pat Utley, Chair

Approved: February 2, 2015.