

**VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 18, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.  
6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, N.C. 28104**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Pat Utley, Julie Brown, Pam King

**Absent:** Jerry Davis

**Staff:** Clerk Cheryl Bennett.

**CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order. A quorum was present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one was present to give public comment.

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

Ms. Brown motioned to adopt the agenda with additions to Unfinished Business of “Follow ups to Park inspections” and “Update on Scout Project”, and addition to New Business of “New Maintenance Items”. Ms. King seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM 02/29/2016 JOINT MEETING AND 03/21/2016 REGULAR MEETING**

Ms. King wanted the minutes on page 17 of the joint meeting corrected to add that she had said Council Member Rodriguez had not relayed his conversation with her correctly. The tape will be checked to add her comment.

Ms. King made a motion to approve the March 21, 2016 minutes; Ms. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**CURRENT YEAR BUDGET REVIEW**

The \$1,000 spent in the amphitheater line item is for the architects bidding administration services. Council decided not to do the stump removal at this time. For the amphitheater, Council is looking at options on pre-fab structures. The architect called the clerk; she told him the project is on hold for the time being. Ms. King reported she had looked at the Stallings pre-fab structure last year, and there was black mold on the underside. There were concerns that you get what you pay for, to consider the original design work of the park, and that the structure not downgrade the park.

Discussion was held on purchasing signs to replace the paper ones we presently have for rules, park hours, and a trail closed sign. The committee will obtain prices for a wood look sign, or it could be put on the scout project list.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WCFOPR EVENT UPDATE**

Sondra Bradford and Diana Bowler from Friends of Parks were present to update on Pig in the Park on May 14, 2016 which the town is co-sponsoring. Ms. Bradford will provide info on deputy and porta pots requests. Volunteers are needed, perhaps the youth council can help, and they are working on sponsorships. An ad will be put in the Union County Weekly. T-shirts will be purchased for the teams. A DJ will be hired, raffle and meal tickets and incidentals will also be needed. Coke is donating

beverages, and they are working on a meat donation. Reed's Gold Mine will be at the event. Set up will be early Friday afternoon, the cooks will spend the night, and Julie Brown will bring her camper. Last year the cooks stayed close to their grills, and there were no noise problems. To prepare for the event the tables and benches need to be moved and pressure washed. Volunteers will be needed to empty garbage. Ms. Bowler had a preliminary layout. Ms. Brown questioned if the landscape company is taking on other responsibilities, and if they would charge to move the tables, then should we rent tables. A tent was discussed, and Council Member Como suggested we buy a 20 x 30 foot event tent. Ms. Bradford and MS. Bowler noted that a certain size tent would require a fire marshal inspection. Ultimately three options were defined, A - to rent tables, tent, and chairs, B - use the plastic tables the town owns, or C - to use the park tables. Quotes will be obtained on a 20 x 30 foot or 20 x 40 foot tent and 15-17 tables. Verbal approval for parking has been obtained from Southbrook. Ms. Bradford will do the signs permit and the temporary use permit and get Ms. Utley to co-sign and then submit to the Zoning Administrator. The clerk will order the deputies services and porta pots. There are strict guidelines for judging the barbecue. Ms. Brown will provide the ice. Ms. Bradford obtained raffle donations of gift certificates and is working on more. Ms. Brown had about 30 windows, which are owned by WCFOPR, from the Dogwood house and could show a sample of a decorated window and take orders. Ms. Bradford and Ms. Bowler were thanked for their efforts.

### **FOLLOW UP TO PARK INSPECTIONS**

Chair Utley read the email regarding the walk through at the park of Brian Matthews from the County and Council Member Rodriguez. She made a sketch of the dog park path, Discussion was held on the process should a complaint arise that the dog park is not accessible. Ms. Brown called Gary Wirth, and asked him about the slope of the path, where the \$25,000 figure to make the dog park accessible and where the idea to re-locate the dog park came from. He advised her he would clear that up. Mr. Wirth said he would go back to the CUP drawing; the dog park was drawn on the CUP where it presently is, and approved by the Board of Adjustment. Council Member Como said an accessible path to the dog park could be a straight line to the trail and accomplished in two days for \$1,000 in materials, and with use of a bobcat and volunteer labor. Chair Utley agreed it did not have to cost \$25,000 and will submit an agenda item on this. She also did not want to see a handrail on the stairs, since the County said we may put one but it is not a requirement. She also wanted the trail completed, and move the rip rap we have, since the hay bales were a temporary fix. Ms. King noted there was already a swale where the new trail is, which was more visible when heavy rains came, she did not think the trail caused the problem. Ms. Brown spoke to the park architect on this, she commented that for some elements you use engineers and we had to have the park open some time to vet things. Chair Utley said the erosion and the trail were not necessarily connected. She wanted to continue with the original plan, get the fence done, put the rip rap around the bridge, and do an ADA path.

A permit for the monument sign was discussed. Council Member Como has pictures of when it was being built. We do not have a sealed drawing from a professional engineer. He will send the photos to the clerk and she will see if the County will accept them in lieu.

Ms. Brown motioned that Chair Utley on behalf of the Parks and Rec Committee take information on the inspection, communications and information from Council Member Rodriguez to Council to cost effectively resolve the issues: a. a handrail is not necessary, b. request approval to do an ADA compliant pathway to the dog park on a volunteer basis, and c. address trail drainage. To do the trail they need a bobcat rental, use of the chain saws, materials on site, plus \$1,200 for more materials, and

they can do a gravel path; in the future the path can be paved. With the Hwy. 84 widening, we don't know how it will affect the park property, and erosion. Ms. King seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **UPDATE ON SCOUT PROJECT**

Council Member Como reported Scout Evans who was going to do the fire pit decided not to do his project at the park. Approved projects on fencing and benches are still a go, but depend on Council attitude.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2016 CONNECT NC BOND MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM**

This item was tabled.

### **COMMITTEE CHAIR POSITION**

This item was tabled. Positive comments were made on the Waxhaw parks and rec web page, and that they allow non-residents to be on the Parks and Rec Committee. Council Member Como suggested they tell Council they have people in Weddington who want to join our Parks and Rec Committee.

### **NEW MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

1. The tree that a neighbor complained about is leafing, but there are some dead branches.
2. On the fishing pier, the fire hose needs to be fixed, Council Member Rodriguez is fixing it.
3. There is dog waste all over the park.
4. The broken fence rails are being fixed by Council Member Rodriguez.
5. A couple of signs from the Girl Scout project are leaning against the posts, and need to be screwed on.
6. Council Member Como is bringing the pet waste bags to Town Hall and they need to be refilled twice a week, also the dog water needs to be refilled twice weekly.
7. The park tables need to be pressure washed.
8. The trails need to generally be cleaned.
9. The fountain was not on when the garden was worked on Saturday morning. Clerk Bennett reported Council Member Rodriguez stated he changed the timer; it had been running 24 hours, he set it to come on at 11 am and off at 8 pm after several fishermen stated they would like it off for fishing in early morning hours, it should also help the electric bill.

### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Chair Utley brought up the dam stump removal; it was assigned a low priority by Council.

The Rotary Club put up a sign at the butterfly garden, but our policy has not been revised. A list of scout projects is needed – bring ideas to the next meeting.

Ms. Brown commented we need to get maintenance under control before any discouragement to youth groups.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. King motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

*s/ Cheryl Bennett*  
Cheryl Bennett, Town Administrator/Clerk

*s/ Pat Utley*  
Pat Utley, Chair

Approved: May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.