

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting
August 1, 2011
6:30 pm
Council Chambers

Minutes & General Account

Parks & Recreation Members Present: Lawrence Straughn, Chair; Al Bartko, Vice Chair; Shanna Moore, Lynn Patterson, Fred Kelly, Lynn Tice, and Robert Pickett (alternate for Charles Dowdy)

Staff present: Chuck Smith, Matthew Johnson and Martha Wolfe

Visitors Present: Tom Tervo, Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News

1. Call to Order – Lawrence Straughn called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from May 2, 2011 meeting – Fred Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Shanna Moore made a second to the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
3. Update on the Jamestown Golf Course Irrigation System Project – Chuck Smith stated the last time we met; Jay Gardner was nearing completion of the irrigation system with the substantial completion date May 11, 2011. Gardner has been working with the irrigation contractor on punch list items of which most are complete.

Gardner is still working on some programming changes (software tweaking). We have experienced some power feed issues that have affected the pumps. Duke Energy is working on this issue. Their system is up and running.

4. Updates on the Wrenn-Miller Park Project – Matthew Johnson said the Park consultants, Haden Stanziale, are working on a phase plan for the Wrenn Miller Park Project. This approach is due to budget issues by the Town. A phased approach would help us meet our contractual obligation of the PARTF grant. This obligation states that the Town has five (5) years from the original grant award to construct the park. We are three (3) years into that five (5) year time line.

We are planning on a \$100,000.00 phase 1 design. Town staff and Public Services Department will do the labor to clean up brush and trees on the parcel. Town staff will also do some clearing of the land. Plans are to apply for the PARTF grant January 2012. We anticipate announcement of the grant recipient by the spring of 2012.

The grant is a 50/50 matching grant. If for some reason we don't get the PARFT grant this round, we will have the opportunity to apply one more time before the five (5) year time line

expires. We hope to get the PARFT grant and open the Park with some amenities. Then we would have a Phase II and III to finish build out of the project.

Johnson stated that we have citizens that have purchased memorial bricks and benches for the Park. Johnson would like to see a Civic group sponsor the gazebo. There is a preliminary plan of the Wrenn Miller Park in the front lobby of the Town Hall with sponsorship forms available for the public.

The committee discussed clearing of the parcel with the use of Town staff and volunteers. They discussed the liability issues of using volunteer groups. Plans are to begin clearing of the parcel this fall/winter. Al Barkto said he would be the first to volunteer.

The members talked about funded for the project. Council budgeted approximately \$35,000.00 for the Wrenn Mill Project for this year and we hope they fund the remaining amount in the next budget year.

The members talked about Corporate Sponsors, possibly Duke Energy, sponsoring lighting for the Park.

Johnson said from the 2007 Parks & Recreation Survey the Town sent out, one of the top five answers people said they would like to see was a Community park. Therefore, we applied based on that community response. If we don't follow through in the five (5) years, we would ruin any chance of getting a PARTF grant in the future.

5. Discussion of Sponsorship Policy and Sponsor Program – Chuck Smith stated that the Council adopted this Sponsorship Policy June 21, 2011. Smith read – “This policy is to allow for a successful sponsorship program to aid in generating additional revenue without jeopardizing Jamestown’s reputation among its citizens or ignoring First amendment rights.” Smith stated this policy allows a corporation to sponsor a Golf Tournament with banners, etc.

Fred Kelly asked if tee markets, etc. could be purchased for longer periods of time than listed. Smith said that we could work out an arrangement if requested by a potential sponsor.

Smith said Pepsi wants to renew their sign at the entrance to the park. Flowers Bakery has also committed to renew. Pennybyrn wants to sponsor a sign on the top of the existing entrance sign to the Park. Smith informed the committee that recently Pennybyrn entered into a partnership with the Town to make Jamestown Golf Course the exclusive course of Pennybyrn. Hutcheon is using this model to market this partnership arrangement with other retirement communities.

It was noted that Brock Thomas had purchased a Tee marker advertisement. Pete Resh came up with the idea of advertising on the golf carts. Smith stated the advertising opportunities

have been so well received, we are discussing of erecting a sign at the baseball field and the athletic complex on E. Fork Rd.

6. Present information on Annual Pass Option at Jamestown Park Golf Course – Smith said this option has been well received. The summer pass for Junior's came in late for this summer, but next year we should have more interest.
7. Other business – Johnson handed out a new logo for the Bicentennial Greenway. (Jamestown Greensboro and High Point) In promoting the Grill at the Park, staff thought of placing location signage along the Greenway to tell people there is a restaurant, restrooms etc., at the Park. (Placing signage at 1 mile, 2 mile, ½ mile) These signs are reflective materials and inexpensive.

Still under other business – Chuck Smith said the Town newsletter will be coming out soon. There will be an article in there regarding Gibson Park. As you know, Gibson Park is owned by Guilford County. In the 2010/2011 Gibson Park Budget there was a cut of \$28,300.00. This facilitated a need to close the Park on Monday and Tuesday and eliminated 1 position. This left a supervisor and 2 full time employees and 2 part time employees. This year the County cut Gibson Park budget by \$48,000.00. That necessitated even more personnel cuts. They reduced staff by one full time position. This leaves the supervisor, 1 full time employee and 2 part time employees. The Park will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. There is only 1 person to mow at the Park. Staff is exploring prices for a mowing contractor. This lean staff is responsible for taking care of 200 acres.

Shanna Moore asked about the Recreation Supervisor position. Smith said there was a vacant position in the recreation department. They created a supervisor position. Now we have a supervisor on site to work with JYL & YMCA on field rentals at Jamestown Park.

The Recreation Supervisor Position will need a computer & desk. So the Town will share an office with JYL at the athletic field complex. Smith said the Town promoted from within and Scott Coakley in the new Recreation Supervisor.

Still under other business, Wolfe stated the September meeting date lands on Labor Day. Robert Pickett made a motion to cancel the September meeting date due to Labor Day and the next Parks & Recreation meeting will be October 3rd, 2011 at 6:30 pm. Al Bartko made a second to the motion and passed unanimously.

Shanna Moore made a motion to adjourn. All agreed and the meeting ended at 7:20 pm.