

Parks & Recreation Committee
November 5, 2012
6:30 pm

Council Chambers

Minutes & General Account

Parks & Recreation Members Present: Lawrence Straughn, Chair; Fred Kelly, Lynn Tice, and Shanna Moore

Staff Present: Chuck Smith, Matthew Johnson and Martha Wolfe

Visitors Present: Bruce Dillon

1. Call to Order – Lawrence Straughn called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from the October 1, 2012 meeting - Fred Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Shanna Moore made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Discussion of the request to change the name of the Wrenn-Miller Park to the Jamestown Veterans Park – Lawrence Straughn stated he has discussed this with town staff. We all have copies of emails and correspondence in reference to the name change. He stated based on promises made at the time of the real estate transaction, he suggested considering instead of renaming the Park to the Jamestown Veterans Memorial let it be addressed as the Jamestown Veterans Memorial at the Wrenn-Miller Park. We thereby maintain our original obligation and promises to the families. Fred Kelly agreed with his suggestion. Kelly stated when the properties were acquired the Veterans were not a part of the project. He feels the Veterans Memorial is a good addition to the Park. By renaming to Jamestown Veterans Memorial at Wrenn-Miller Park, we keep our commitment to the families and recognize the Veterans Memorial. Kelly made a second to the motion. Shanna Moore asked for clarification of the name being considered and Straughn confirmed – Jamestown Veterans Memorial at Wrenn Miller Park.

Fred Kelly asked about the signage for the entrances to the Park. The Town Manager stated there are 3 entrances to the park. It has been discussed that the northern entrance which is located on the Mendenhall Rd. side could be designated as the Jamestown Veterans Memorial entrance. The other 2 entrances to the Park will remain the Wrenn-Miller Park entrances.

Chairman Straughn recognized Bruce Dillon who was in the audience. Dillon is the Chairman of the Jamestown Veterans Committee. Dillon said the Jamestown Veteran's Committee will not object to the Park name and will move forward.

Fred Kelly stated in all fairness to Dillon, we could modify the motion that as we move forward the name could be modified, but both names would be used for the Park. The Town Manager stated it could be said that one of the entrances be recognized as the Veteran's Memorial according to design plans.

The Town Clerk restated to the Parks & Recreation Committee that the motion on the table is; to rename the Park to the Jamestown Veterans Memorial at Wrenn Miller Park. The Town Clerk stated that signage and design were not part of the motion for consideration.

Fred Kelly said he would think in the future the Jamestown Veterans Committee would give input into the Park design. Kelly felt both names should be included and not upset the families. Smith said there has been discussion regarding banners. If the Town were to install banners across Perry & Guilford Rd., separate banners could be designed for the Wrenn-Miller Park and the Jamestown Veterans Memorial. The Veterans Memorial will be an integral part of the Park.

Smith asked Dillon if he would like to speak about the possible change in design. Dillon said they took their design to an architect to draw up the plans. The architect redesigned their plans and feels that a larger space is needed for the monument. He thinks instead of the 40 X 40 area it needs to be a 60 X 60 area. The architect is working with Paul Blanchard, Public Services Director, on the placing of the monument. Dillon will show the plan as soon as it is completed. Shanna Moore asked if the location is still on the North corner. Town staff confirmed the location is still the same.

The area as currently approved will only allow for approximately 300 brick to be sold. Dillon said they want to be sure they have enough to satisfy everyone. The monument will remain at approximately 20' in length and 9' in height. The architect's suggestion is to put the monument in the center of the piece of property and put a flag pole behind it. The Honor Roll will be engraved on the back side of the monument with the WWII veterans listed. On the front of the monument, all the other branches of the service will be honored.

Straughn asked if the height of the monument would obstruct the field of vision for other areas of the Park. Johnson said we are still working on location of design elements.

Smith displayed a map of the area showing the entrance location. He said part of the driving force to expand that square footage of the memorial area was to sale bricks to raise funds for the area. Smith said at present, we are committed to the 40 X 40 area.

One possibility instead of expanding to a 60 X 60 area would be to incorporate a sidewalk and sale bricks in the sidewalk. The Veterans Committee will need to sale a certain number of bricks. The Committee discussed the monument design and the size of the monument and the flag pole.

Lawrence Straughn came back to the original motion which was to allow the park to be called the Jamestown Veterans Memorial at the Wrenn Miller Park. Fred Kelly previously made a second to the motion. Lawrence Straughn called for a vote. The vote was unanimous.

4. Expiring terms for committee members – The Town Clerk stated the following members have terms expiring the end of December 2012.

Al Bartko – 12/2012

Lynn Patterson – 12/2012

Shanna Moore – 12/2012

Charles Dowdy – 12/2012

Wolfe asked if Shanna Moore would sever another term and she agreed. The Town Clerk will contact the other members to see if they are willing to serve another term. These names will be presented to the Town Council at the November meeting.

5. Other business –

Lawrence Straughn reported that the Guilford County Parks & Recreation meeting was cancelled this month. The next meeting is scheduled for next week.

Still under other business, Shanna Moore reported that the First Tee Program had their first graduating class the end of October. (17 kids in the first class and 10 in the other) The kids received certification in life skills and golf skills. They took 2 tests and a putting test. The kids ranged in age from 7 – 11 years old. Moore asked for volunteers for the next session. Registration begins in February and classes start the first of April.

Smith said it has been a good year for the golf course. He said they are doing some grading and landscaping at the baseball field and the Park. At the entrance, they took out most of the trees. Most of the trees were pines and not safe for the public. This section will be grass and open space area.

The Committee briefly discussed the shelter at the Park and the need to demolish it. They discussed the patio at the clubhouse.

The Parks & Recreation Committee decided to cancel the December 3rd, 2012 meeting unless there is business that needs to be discussed. The Town Clerk was directed to notify the members if a meeting is needed.

Kelly asked about the time table on the bricks for the Veteran's Monument. Dillon said that bricks for the Veteran's Memorial are currently for sale. They also hope their website will launch the end of the week. Johnson felt that the start date for Park construction is 12 to 18 months out. We are moving forward. We have quotes on the fence work and the gazebo. The Town Manager and the Planning Director are prepared to make a presentation to the Jamestown Rotary Club.

Straughn made a motion to adjourn. Lynn Tice made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.