

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
October 1, 2012
6:30 pm

Council Chambers
Minutes & General Account

Parks & Recreation Members Present: Lawrence Straughn, Chair; Al Bartko, Vice-Chair; Charles Dowdy, Fred Kelly, Lynn Tice and Shanna Moore

Staff Present: Chuck Smith, Matthew Johnson and Martha Wolfe

Visitors Present: Bruce Dillon and James Dore, members of Jamestown Veterans Committee and Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News

1. Call to Order – Lawrence Straughn called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from the August 6th, 2012 meeting - Charles Dowdy made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Shanna Moore made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Presentation from the Jamestown Veterans Committee – Bruce Dillon, Chair of the Jamestown Veterans Committee, addressed the Parks & Recreation Committee. He stated the intention of the Jamestown Veterans Committee is to build a monument to honor our veterans. They plan to build this monument on the site of the Wrenn-Miller Park. He handed out a computer generated drawing of the monument design. They are currently getting price quotes on the monument construction.

Dillon stated they are requesting a 40' X 40' land area on which to construct the monument. The monument will be approximately 25' long and approximately 5 – 6' in height. Dillon displayed a large scale reproduction of the "Honor Roll". Per Dillon, these "Honor Roll" signs were erected on a vacant lot near what is now the Triad Trophy Shop. These signs were displayed during WWII. The "Honor Roll" signs consisted of people in and around Jamestown that were enlisted in WWII. Dillon said their goal for the Park and the monument is to honor all the veterans from all the wars. The "Honor Roll" sign consisted of 246 names. There are 5 names with stars beside them; which meant they did not come home from the war. He has obituaries of 5 others that died in the war.

He is asking the Parks & Recreation Committee to give a favorable recommendation to the Council for this Jamestown Veterans Memorial. They hope to raise enough money to erect this monument and have a nice addition to the Park located across the street.

Dillon also asked the Parks & Recreation Committee to consider changing the name of the Wrenn-Miller Park to the Jamestown Veterans Park.

Chairman Straughn asked who will be responsible for maintenance on the sign. Dillon said the Jamestown Veterans plan to raise the money for the memorial, but will then donate it to the Town. The Town will be responsible for the maintenance.

Dillon said this will be a one sided sign with a large brick area in front. Commemorative bricks and a flag pole will be located in the brick area. On Veterans Day & Memorial Day they will have a flag raising and wreath ceremony similar to Arlington National Park.

Dillon has two (2) enlarged displays of the "Honor Roll" sign. The Jamestown Veterans Committee hopes to display them in different businesses throughout the Town so people will become aware of this project.

Chairman Straughn asked if the monument sign will be lighted. Dillon said we hope to have lights for the monument and the flag pole. Chairman Straughn also asked who would be responsible for the monument and flag maintenance, upkeep, etc. Per Dillon, there would be only one (1) flag pole. Each branch of the service will have their emblem displayed on the granite monument wall. The monument will be donated back to the Town of Jamestown. The Town would be responsible for the maintenance, upkeep, etc.

Dillon stated the "Honor Roll" sign came from a picture in his Dad's scrapbook. His father served in 1942. The "Honor Roll" names will not be changed. It is a piece of Jamestown history. There is a painting of this in the Jamestown Library from 1945. We do not know who put the sign together. It was erected on a vacant lot which at the time was named, Armstrong Meat Market.

Dillon said the criteria for the Jamestown Veterans Monument and for the sale of the commemorative bricks will be for people that served in the military that were from Jamestown or have a Jamestown connection.

The Parks & Recreation Members felt the monument sign was very attractive and appropriate. It resembled the design of the Jamestown entrance signs.

Chairman Straughn stated we have two (2) proposals to consider:

1. Approval of a recommendation to the Council for the Jamestown Veterans Memorial project and design.
2. The name change of the Park from the Wrenn-Miller Park to the Jamestown Veterans Park. Straughn stated he has questions about the name change. How would it affect the PARTF grant, how does the Town feel about changing the name on a project where monies have already been awarded, and are there legal issues. Smith said we really need to look into the ramifications of a name change. Straughn asked to table this. He felt we did not have enough information to discuss at this time. It was decided to place the discussion regarding a name change on the November 5th agenda.

Shanna Moore asked if the Veterans group had an estimate on the cost. Dillon stated they are in the process of getting estimates. However, based on the cost of the Town's entrance signs, he feels it will be between \$20,000.00- \$30,000.00.

Charles Dowdy felt if the name was changed to the Jamestown Veterans Memorial Park, grant money may be easier to get. Dowdy said he has been contacted by some people that said they would not donate to the Veterans Memorial unless the name was changed to the Jamestown Veterans Park.

Johnson stated that Martha Wolfe was involved in the negotiations when the Town purchased the property from the two families. He thinks it is important for Wolfe to be involved in the conversation with the family members if or when a name change is considered.

Chairman Straughn called for a vote for a recommendation of approval to the Council for the monument design. Shanna Moore made a motion to recommend approval of the monument sign and design as presented. Al Bartko made a second to the motion. The vote passed by unanimous vote.

Chairman Straughn stated staff will research the issue of the request to change the name of the Park. This will be discussed at the November 5th, meeting.

Chuck Smith stated another item that needs to be presented to the Parks & Recreation Committee is the request for the Jamestown Veterans Committee to sale bricks as a fundraiser at a higher price than the Town is offering. The Town Manger would like to get a favorable recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Committee to give to the Town Council.

Smith said the commemorative bricks are \$50.00. The Jamestown Veterans group would like to sale the bricks for \$100.00. Then pay the Town \$50.00 for the cost of the brick and keep the additional \$50.00 to help fund the memorial. The Town is limiting the 40'X40' area for the veterans. The Jamestown Veterans Committee will handle the sale of the brick in that area. A 4' X 8' brick will have 3 lines up to 18 characters. Johnson will check to see if the military service emblem can be printed on the 8'X8' brick.

Chairman Straughn said we need to consider a motion to allow the Jamestown Veterans Group to sale the bricks as a fundraiser for the Veterans monument. Shanna Moore made a motion to recommend approval of allowing the Jamestown Veterans Committee to sale commemorative bricks at an increased cost beyond the Town's cost as a fundraiser for the Veterans Memorial. The approved size and price being a 4'X8' brick for an additional \$50.00 and an 8'X8' brick for an additional \$100.00 above the Town's cost. Al Bartko made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Other Business

Under other business, the Town Manager said the Town has started a Park Partner endeavor specifically related to the baseball fields. The Town is offering opportunities for outfield signage, signage on the back stop, signage on the dugouts. The Town received a check from Sheetz, its first official partner. These funds are donated for capital improvement at the park.

Chairman Straughn gave a report from the last Guilford County Parks & Recreation meeting: The County has purchased a few more properties through some 2004 grant money.

- i. Company Mill Rd. property – to be developed into wetland area and hiking trails – (Pleasant Garden)
- ii. Hedgecock property – purchased additional property to adjoin existing land. This is located in High Point.

Wolfe announced the Town is hosting its first Veterans Day Ceremony on Sunday November 11, 2012 at 2:00 pm on the front lawn of the Town Hall. Then reassemble on the future site of the Jamestown Veterans Memorial.

Shanna Moore gave an update on the First Tee Program at the Park. She said it is going great. The classes are on Tuesday and Thursday, 4:30 – 6:30 pm. The kids are having a great time. This session will end on October 23, 2012. The kids and parents have been fantastic. The next session will begin in March.

Al Bartko made a motion to adjourn. Charles Dowdy made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.