



OAK RIDGE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2013 ~ 7 P.M.  
OAK RIDGE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

**Members Present**

Bill Edwards, Chair  
Tracy Street, Vice Chair  
Barry Knight  
Phyllis Anders, Alternate (Sitting)  
Paul Greiwe, Alternate (Sitting)  
John Thomas, Alternate (Not Sitting)

**Teen Advisor Present**

Madeline Bagby

**Staff Present**

Sandra Smith, Town Clerk

**Staff Absent**

Terry Lannon, Parks & Recreation Director

**Members Absent**

Tony Cooler  
Liz Tice

**Walkability Sub-Committee Absent**

Ellen Langlois, Chair

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Bill Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVE OCTOBER 17, 2013, AGENDA**

Paul Greiwe made a **motion** to approve the agenda of the October 17, 2013, meeting. Barry Knight seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (5-0).

**3. APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**

Paul Greiwe made a **motion** to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2013, meeting. Tracy Street seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (5-0).

**4. STAFF REPORT**

Parks and Recreation Director Terry Lannon was out of town, but he submitted a staff report and budget report (which are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of the minutes).

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- U.S. Tennis Association presentation

Kelly Gaines, executive director of the U.S. Tennis Association NC, made a presentation regarding possible tennis courts at Oak Ridge Town Park. Gaines stated that the organization has 58 members with Oak Ridge addresses, and that league tennis, which breaks down participants by ability, has continued to grow in this area. She indicated that grant money of up to \$50,000 or 20 percent of facility cost is available from USTA for groups that start tennis programs from the ground up. She added that if six courts were built in Oak Ridge, a lot of tournaments could be played if combined with the six courts at Northwest High School. In addition, six courts could provide revenue-generating options for the park that would not be available if only four courts were built.

Bill Edwards asked how often courts would need to be resurfaced, and Gaines said it depends on use, but probably every 5-7 years. Edwards commented on lights, and Gaines said some league play would be restricted if lights were not available. Regarding revenue, Gaines said most tennis leagues have court costs associated with league play, and it can be handled at the time of play or built into the league fee. When asked if any other amenities – such as a locker room or water fountain – are needed, Gaines said a nearby restroom is nice; most tennis players bring their own water to drink, she said, and nothing else is really needed.

Commission members then discussed the size of tennis courts and how much space is needed between courts.

Barry Knight commented that a lot of revenue is lost that would have been available had one more softball field had been built, and that he didn't want to see the Town miss out on a similar opportunity to generate income at the park with tennis courts. The possibility of partnering with Oak Ridge Swim Club on tennis courts was also discussed.

**Tracy Street** made a **motion** that additional information and pricing be obtained and to pursue six lighted tennis courts. **Barry Knight** seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (5-0).

- **Tree health and mitigation efforts**

The Commission discussed issues that have affected some of the trees in the park, including fungus, borers and insects, and what would be done to fight them.

**Bill Edwards** made a motion that Parks and Recreation staff take into consideration recommendations from New Garden Nursery before moving forward with treatment. **Tracy Street** seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (5-0).

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

Commission members discussed the Community Yard Sale event slated for October 26, 2013, in Oak Ridge Town Park and what type of support would be needed by the Commission in order to make the event a success. Phyllis Anders volunteered to come early and assist Lannon in organizing the vendors.

**7. YOUTH ADVISOR REPORT**

None

**8. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS**

- **Fall landscaping.** \$2,500 was included in the budget for landscaping around the bank of the pond, which was scheduled to be done in November. In addition, the corners of the parking lot that often are run over with vehicles are going to be aerated and landscaped.
- **Special meeting to discuss RFQs for Phase II of the park.** Commission members discussed a special meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission to be held October 29, 2013 (changed from the original date of October 24), to hear a presentation on new elements in the park from the design team.
- **Community Yard Sale.** Scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 26, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting.** Scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m.
- **PARTF application.** Due Jan. 31, 2014.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

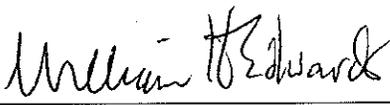
None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Tracy Street** made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. **Phyllis Anders** seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Sandra B. Smith, Town Clerk

  
William H. Edwards, Chairman