



**OAK RIDGE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.
OAK RIDGE TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

Members Present

Tracy Street, Chair
Kyle Anders
John Browning
John Garrett
Mike Kimel, Alternate (Sitting)
Maureena Shepherd, Alternate (Sitting)
Brady Young

Staff Present

Terry Lannon, Parks & Recreation Director
Ashley Royal, Deputy Clerk

Members Absent

Phyllis Anders, Vice Chair
CJ Annunziato, Teen Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tracy Street called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

Tracy Street made a motion to approve the meeting agenda after moving the public comments and the request to use the park for cancer research 5K before the approval of minutes. Kyle Anders seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (7-0).

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Patti Dmuchowski said that the Special Events Committee agreed with the new location for the Veterans Memorial at the Whitaker property and shared with the Board the results of their brainstorming sessions regarding the memorial.

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2019 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING, DECEMBER 19, 2019 REGULAR MEETING AND JANUARY 16, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

Brady Young made a motion to approve the December 5, 2019 special called meeting, December 19, 2019 regular meeting and January 16, 2020 regular meeting. Kyle Anders seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (7-0).

5. STAFF REPORT

Parks & Recreation Director Terry Lannon presented the staff report:

- **2020-2021 Budget Request.**
- **2019 Music in the Park Financials.** Lannon shared with Board members the financials from the 2019 season of Music in the Park.
- **2020 Event Calendar.**

6. ORYA REPORT

- No one from ORYA was at the meeting to present their report.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Request to use park for Cancer Research 5K (Santi Mckenzie).** Santi Mckenzie introduced herself as a junior at Northwest Guilford High School and requested permission to host a 5K on March 21, 2020 beginning at 9 a.m. to help raise funds for cancer research. Mckenzie said that she would like to use the course that had been used for the Run the Ridge course and would supply all of the volunteers for the event. Lannon asked if this would be a color run, and Mckenzie replied no. Lannon asked if there would be water stations, and Mckenzie replied yes. John Garrett asked if there would be a make-up date in case of inclement weather, and Mckenzie replied no.

John Browning made a motion to approve the Cancer Research 5K to be held at the park on March 21, 2020. Brady Young seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (7-0).

- B. Discussion of amending tobacco ordinance to include electronic cigarettes (Tracy Street).** Street said that the Guilford County Health Department has suggested that local municipalities strengthen their tobacco use ordinances to include prohibiting electronic cigarettes at all public buildings. Ashley Royal provided Board members with the proposed ordinance language from the Guilford County Board of Health that includes the following statement: "Any product containing or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, or ingested by any other means, including but not limited to cigarettes; e-cigarettes, cigars, little cigars; snuff; and chewing tobacco. A tobacco product excludes any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product, as a tobacco dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for such an approved purpose." Young asked what our current ordinance said, and Royal replied that it stated, "Any product containing or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption."

Tracy Street made a motion to approve the suggested wording from the Guilford County Health Department in order to strengthen Oak Ridge Town Park's tobacco ordinance. Brady Young seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously. (7-0).

- C. Charge to Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to investigate feasibility of horse trails (Tracy Street).**

Street asked the Board to review the charge that the Council had issued regarding horse trails. Street asked Councilwoman Martha Pittman for her thoughts and Pittman replied that she could only speak for herself and did not speak for the Council. Pittman

encouraged the Board to investigate the issue and to provide Council with an honest assessment based upon factual information. Street asked the Board members about their suggestions on how to research the feasibility of horse trails. A conversation ensued and some Board members, no more than 4, decided to visit Northeast Park, Piedmont Saddle Club and Salem Lake to visit their horse trails and ask employees about the pros and cons about having joint trails that combine walkers and horses. Board members expressed concerns about potential park liability as it relates to horse trails. Young asked if we can receive legal advice on this issue, and Lannon said that town attorney needs to be contacted. Street said that she would contact town manager, Bill Bruce, to request legal advice on the liability issues as it relates to the feasibility of horse trails.

D. Discussion of commemorative trees (Terry Lannon). Lannon said that planting commemorative trees at the park with a placard cost \$240. Lannon said that he was approached recently by a citizen concerning planting an existing tree that they wanted planted in a specific location in the park. Lannon told the Board that he charged them \$240 for a sponsorship and would add a placard to the commemorative tree once it was planted. Lannon wanted the Board to know that the cost of a commemorative tree was the same whether park staff planted an existing tree or a new tree.

8. OLD BUSINESS

Commemorative Brick Sale Update (John Garrett). Garrett reported that 34 brick pavers have been sold.

9. OTHER DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

Next Meeting: March 19, 2020 at 7 p.m.
Canine Capers: April 25, 2020

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilwoman Pittman provided the Board with an update on the Youth Athletics Subcommittee. Pittman told Board members that this subcommittee wanted to hear their comments and that she would be emailing a survey out to each person soon. She encouraged Board members to contact her via email or phone call to discuss concerns and comments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Kyle Anders made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m. John Browning seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously (7-0).

Respectfully submitted:

Ashley Royal
Deputy Clerk

Tracy Street
Chair