

Town of Rolesville  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Minutes for Wednesday January 26, 2022

**Call to Order** - 7:02 meeting begins

Mothanna Al-Hoory  
Kevin Mazur (remote)  
Richard Armant  
Mary Ka Powers  
Derek Versteegen  
Abby Armistead (not present)  
Aaron Gauger  
—  
JG Ferguson - Parks & Recreation Director  
Paul Vilga - Town Commission Liaison

Motion to Approve Minutes from October 27, 2021 from Mary Ka contingent on noted corrections:

Spell last name without the “y”

Second motion from Derek acknowledging the corrections to be made  
6-0 in favor of approving minutes from October 27, 2021 as amended

**Introductions**

Kevin Mazur (remote) - 4th year on board, 4th year living in Rolesville  
Derek Versteegen - 4th year on board, 6th year living in Rolesville  
Mothanna Al-Hoory - new member, 4th year living in Rolesville, retired University professor  
Aaron Gauger - new member, 4th year in Rolesville, 12th year in Raleigh area  
Richard Armant - 1 year on board, 17th year in Rolesville, 20 yrs with Chamber  
Mary Ka Powers - ~20 years on board and living in Rolesville  
Abby Armistead (not present)  
JG Ferguson - Parks & Recreation Director - 14 yrs with town, 10 years as director  
Paul Vilga - Town Commissioner & board Liaison - 2nd term, 14 yrs in Rolesville

**Post Introduction Comments**

Mothanna suggests a more formal process for letting applicants know they were selected to be on board. Suggestions include making sure a selection emails with formal, personalized salutations are sent - so the applicant doesn't suspect a generic, spam email. The process should also include information related to other members on the board.

Mary Ka adds the process should include a communication to the other board members announcing the new members so current members have some awareness that new members have been selected by the town commissioners.

JG noted he will follow up with the Town Clerk to review and make changes as needed.

## **Old Business**

None discussed

## **New Business**

Nominations for Vice Chair & Secretary:

- Secretary
  - Motion to nominate Derek made by Derek
  - Second Richard
  - 6-0 approved
- Vice Chair
  - Motion to nominate Mary Ka made by Mary Ka
  - Second by Richard
  - 6-0 approved
- 2022 Meeting Dates
  - Discussion and decision to continue with 4th Wednesday at 7pm and continue with in person meetings
  - Two additional dates noted - Feb 15 (work session) and April 26 (appreciation dinner)
  - Discuss Nov and Dec date alternatives later in the year when we can evaluate how things are closer to that point in time
- Parks & Recreation Bond/Farm – Next Steps for PARAB
  - JG - summarizes situation/status.
  - Will collect more information to present in February so PARAB can aim to make a recommendation to the town board for their March meeting.
  - Paul - provided perspective the board currently holds, outlining challenges to overcome. Notes the board has instructed staff to search for funding alternatives. Notes that he would like more information from the town before PARAB gets too far in front of itself
  - Mary Ka - provides some context, history of the Farm property and requests that Derek send the link to survey that was conducted in 2021 since the page has links to resources and results new members might find useful.  
<http://www.tribbit.net/i/rolesville/>
- Chandlers Ridge – Potential Park Property
  - JG - 171 acre development with a condition that allows the town to purchase ~22 acres and PARAB should make a recommendation for or against the purchase. Value is not known, estimated to be a cost of \$600,000. Current budget has \$500,000 available for park land acquisition.
  - Paul - What other properties are we looking at?
  - Mothanna - Why doesn't town stipulate and set aside space?
  - JG
    - In response to Paul's questions: A parcel south of town has been discussed and the land owners are willing to sell and prefer to sell for the purpose of being a park but nothing going anywhere at the moment

- In response to Mothanna's questions: Will need to review the LDO to recall the exact amount of space allocation for open space and active open space are required per lot created by a developer.
  - Send other questions to JG to explore.
- Paul - Suggest a map of current town parks and other amenities being shown/available at these meetings could help in the future
- Derek - Offers to send map OSAG uses - has parks and greenways identified <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1wNVeCm5wuvZMyzF2rAwHBkmYbQLQ8mkq&usp=sharing>
- Cobblestone/Community Center
  - JG summarizes status - a \$6.5 million structure the town commissioners are questioning. An alternative has been explored - a one story "toadstool" structure Discussions with staff took place but was challenging since the smaller footprint didn't seem to fit with a number of goals and needs.
  - Mary Ka - the town really needs this community center and any alternative is not representative of the surrounding development
  - Derek - the alternative, as described, seems like a 20% cost saving that creates a 50% loss in programming opportunities and probably has a 40% financial opportunity cost - doesn't make sense to build something less functional in the heart of town
- Open Space & Greenway Plan Update – February 15th – Joint Meeting with Town Board
  - JG - notes that OSAG was invited and attended a meeting with McAdams to review concerns. Interest and input from PARAB would be helpful too. Outlines a shift in priorities:
    - Heritage to Mill Bridge crossing
    - Connect the Pointe through Cedar Lakes to Main Street Park
    - Town Loop Greenway (new)
    - N Main Street to Frazier Farm (bumped down a spot)

## **Director Reports**

### **Facility Update**

- Field lights being replaced
- Baseball fence took wind damage, working to correct
- Property damage to Mill Bridge Park, perpetrator identified and discussion underway
- Property damage to Redford Drive roundabout, perpetrator identified and discussion underway
- Wayfinding signs continue to be installed
- Mary Ka - asks about the greenway reroute needed as a result of the Cobblestone Development, JG informs it should be installed in April.

### **Programs**

- All programs are doing well.
- Performing Arts had a strong month, as did Senior Bingo and Yoga.
- Youth Basketball had over 300 participants, but still a little bit of a struggle since renting space and not having our own

## Events

- Blood drive on Feb 18 - even months
- Litter Sweep are odd months
- Arbor Day planning underway
- April Egg Rush planning underway
- Grant helps to fund 6 outdoor concerts for 2022

## Committee Reports

### OSAG Committee

- Met with McAdams (as noted) shared feedback
- Meetings are informal, virtual but expect to have the Outdoor Museum proposal for February

### Facility Naming and Identity Committee

- Handout provided detailing the draft for town policies for naming publicly owned properties and dedicating public streets, parks, greenways, and buildings.
- PARAB members to review, have questions and feedback ready for February meeting

## Other Business

Mary Ka suggests we begin tracking “action items” so we can follow and keep track over the course of time.

Mothanna suggests a contact list be created and shared - e-mail and phone numbers.

Derek asks about the bridge between Sanford Elementary and Granite Acres - Pauls informs it is a town, hoa, wcps issue, not parab.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Derek

Mothanna seconds.

**Adjourn** - 9:16 meeting ends

## Appendix - Meeting Dates

Jan. 26 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Feb. 15 - 6pm - Work Session - Town Commissions and Parks and Recreation Advisor Board

Feb. 23 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Mar. 23 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Apr. 26 - 7pm - Dinner - Town Commissioners Thank You

May 25 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Jun. 22 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Jul. 27 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Aug. 24 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Sep. 28 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Oct. 26 - 7pm - Normal Meeting

Nov. 23 - 7pm - Normal Meeting (tentative)

Dec. 28 - 7pm - Normal Meeting (tentative)

