



## **Park Advisory Board Meeting Minutes December 1st, 2021**

### **Call to order**

The recent Park Advisory Board Meeting was held on December 1st, 2021 at the Hut Meeting Facility. The meeting was called to order at 6:38pm by Tristan McMannis and seconded by Kris McVey.

### **Attendees**

Matthew Jakubowski (staff)	Randy Brantley	Barbara Manning
Erin Hamilton (staff)	Lorraine Haynes	Kris McVey
Tristan McMannis (chair)	Yvette Isaacs	Stacy Shatterly
Sue Bankston		

**Public Comment:** None

### **Approval of minutes**

Randy Brantley made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting. Motion approved and seconded by Lorraine Haynes, ayes by all.

**New Board Member:** Kris McVey is introduced to the board as a new board member. She live in the McCullough neighborhood.

**New PR Commission Representative:** Ivette Isaacs is the new member representing our district on the PRC Board. She is also now the vice chair for a subcommittee on the south side. They will be going on a retreat soon and she excited to learn more about the PRC board.

**Staff Updates** – Matthew Jakubowski, Parks and Recreation Director gave an update on the following:

- **Events Update:**
  - Fall Community Yard Sale was on 9/25. All tables were booked. Heather said they had a good flow of traffic. The kidney foundation would not pick up the leftovers. Matt wants to make the yard sale bigger with more tables, maybe use our big tent.
  - Fall Fest was on 10/15 & 10/16: No rides this year, which was voted on by council. We moved everything to more of one central location. The vendors, beer garden, entertainment was all in one location. We had fireworks on Friday and Saturday nights. We had a few complaints from residents about location and the noise but we had more complements.
    - Looking at 2022, we are looking to move Fall Fest to Jack Hughes. The flatness of the land makes it better for more and different rides. We would use the multipurpose for vendors and entertainment. We will have to figure out parking and may shuttle people.

The new library/town hall could provide extra parking if construction is finished. Concerts would be on a field and the beer garden fenced in with the field.

- Randy brought up having a 5k race in the morning of the Fall Fest.
- Halloween Flotilla was on 10/29. The Halloween Bash was cancelled due to COVID-19. Kids came and carved pumpkins. We lit the pumpkins with light sticks and put them on our new dock to float in the middle of the lake.
- Halloween Grab N Go was on 10/28. We handed out 90 bags in one hour and 20 minutes. It was the fastest we have ever gone through the bags.
- Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt ran from 11/5-11/21. We had 9 families participate.
- Senior Drive thru was on 11/10 was national Vanilla Cupcake Day. We got cupcakes locally from Cupcake Delirium in Pineville.
- Family Game Night was on 11/19. We had 7 teams' signup for 90s trivia.
- Thanksgiving Grab N Go was on 11/13. We gave out 95 bags.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - The Annual Tree Lighting is this Saturday, 12/4 from 3pm -5:30pm. We had to cancel the snow due to the warmer weather. We thought we were going to have to cancel the smore pit with the no open fire ban but since our fire is closed in its ok with Pineville Fire. We will have the train ride, craft tent, candy cane hunt, and carolers/jugglers. Pineville Fire is providing Santa and bringing him on the fire truck. Lorraine and Barbara are volunteering to help out at the event.
  - Senior Drive Thru on 12/9 for National Pastry Day
  - Christmas Grab N Go on 12/16.
  - Family Game Night: Bingo on 12/19.
  - Special Olympics Bingo on 1/7: We are starting to work more with Special Olympics and Special Pops. We want to be more inclusive and getting everyone into our facilities.
  - Family Game Night on 1/21 will more than likely be trivia.
  - Senior Valentines Banquet on 2/11: Any ideas on entertainment.
- **New Programming:**
  - Pineville Basketball: Erin started a youth basketball program internally through Pineville Parks and Recreation. The Pineville United Methodist used to have Upward Youth Basketball but 2019 was their last season. Erin had 152 sign ups and 18 teams total from ages 5-12. The oldest age group will play in Mecklenburg County's league since there were only two teams. Matt has been encouraging for more internal programming.
  - Other Pineville Athletics: Adult Basketball, Adult Softball, Youth Soccer
  - Adaptive Sports & Adventure Programs: ASAP is using Jack Hughes and the Belle Johnston gym or archery and pickleball. Many of these people are in wheelchairs or have some form of disability. We provide the space for them to be able to recreate.
  - Box Lacrosse: The structure is enclosed like hockey with smaller numbers on the field. We are doing this for the first time in the winter at Jack Hughes on the multipurpose field. We are going to see how it goes. It will be trial and error with field damage.
  - Special Olympics: We want to run a dance/prom for the kids. We want to be able to allow space for basketball, bocce ball, pickleball. Hopefully we will be able to host Senior games at our facilities. Host pickleball, bocce ball, multipurpose field for something.
  - Senior Nutrition Programming: Once or twice a week we go and do fun activities with the Mecklenburg County Lunch Program. We play family feud, minute to win it games.

- Pineville Arts in the Park Festival will be on 5/14 from 10am-6pm. It will be absolutely art and culture vendors kind of like festival in the park but with no rides. We hope to book African dance, violinist, any diverse entertainment. We want it to be completely arts driven.
- **No Outdoor Basketball Court:** No court over by town hall. Bad lighting and not a good location.
- **LWCF Grant Update:** Kristy Detwiler was awarded the \$175K for the parcel land behind the dog park. It was bought by the Millers. Millers are not willing to let us buy it back. Matt tried to move the grant money to another parcel of land but the grant people will not allow us to use it on a different parcel of land. Very sad news.
- **Future Park Parcels:** We have funds that are allocated for land purchasing. Master plans help with us obtaining land. We are hoping to develop the land at Jack Hughes with Charlotte Catholic School. They are willing to help pay for the development. We are actively trying to acquire land fast for more projects. We are also trying to work with Mecklenburg County about obtaining land. One parcel we are looking at is off of Dorman Rd.
- **New Dog Park Amenities:** We received some plastic tunnels for the dogs in the park. Lanier Materials donated these to us. They are heavy duty and we got different sizes for the dogs to play on. The fence was reduced in the one area where it was flooding really badly.
- **Jack Hughes Upgrades:** We have completed new upgrades to the stadium at Jack Hughes. The outfield fence got painted, the scoreboard got painted, and new panels for the scoreboard. We purchased new bleachers for the dugout and the dugouts have been painted. The foul poles have new banners. New Jack Hughes flags have been added to the flag poles.
- **PCAA Update:** Fall 2021 registration numbers were the highest ever. They are wanting to use their fundraiser money to do some smaller projects around fields. They want to purchase a new portable mound, upgrade the batting cages, and shade structures for bleachers.
- **Farmers Market:** The Board gave more underwhelming comments about the farmers market like the lack of varieties, not enough vendor, bad location, and not enough parking. Is it more about the destination than the location How do we solicit better vendors? Maybe change the day and get vendors from other markets. When the new town hall is built, we may be able to use the grassy area there.

### **Park Advisory Board**

- Tristan wants everyone to be familiar with the master plan. We can have a separate meeting to discuss the master plan.
- Looking at the Park Board bylaws, Tristan wants to add something about advocating for parks and recreation. Maybe reword the mission statement so it has something about advocacy so if Parks and rec staff need the board to go before council, they will be there with us. Do people in Pineville know we exist as in the board? The board needs more visibility and to help more with PR events. The Park Board as a group should be volunteering. Maybe we could get some t-shirts so people know who the board members. Get name tags for board members.
  - Duties: Sending information to the Planning Board. Duties could include: advocate for funds for park and rec and participate in annual budget meetings as appropriate.

- Adopt new term limit or limits on consecutive terms. Maybe rotate each year with new chair. This way everyone gets a chance to be chair and rotate through.
- Reach out to the HOAs and get representatives from each neighborhood to come out to the meetings.
- Tristan is good with making changes and putting a draft of the changes. Vote on the changes at the next meeting.
- Does anyone want to be the vice chair? Randy nominates Kris to be vice chair. **All in favor of Kris to be vice chair. All agree Aye, unanimous decision.**
- Tristan will start doing the agenda. He is going to restructure the agenda with things we need to advocate for. He wants to be more involved with the budget process and funding. Erin can send out events update a week earlier so we are not going over everything in the meeting.

### Advisory Board Discussion

- Maybe get two new fountains. Newer ones with lights that we can change for the seasons.

-Kris asked if there are opportunities for middle and high school kids to help volunteer and get community service hours.

-Erin is going to email out the master plan so everyone can read it before the special meeting January.

-Randy suggested putting a kiosk up at the dog park to advertise our programs and events.

Adjourn – Sur Bankston made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Kris seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.