

**TOWN OF WEDDINGTON
REGULAR PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009 – 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the Town of Weddington, North Carolina, met in a Regular Session in the Town Hall Council Chambers, 1924 Weddington Road, Weddington, NC 28104 on Monday, February 23, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. with Interim Chairman L.A. Smith presiding.

Present: Interim Chairman L.A. Smith, Scott Buzzard, Debra Korb, Nancy Pulcini, Dorine Sharp and Sharon Sanders and Town Clerk/Administrator Amy S. McCollum

Absent: Jeff Perryman

Visitors: Nancy Anderson

Item No. 1. Open the Meeting. Interim Chairman L.A. Smith called the February 23, 2009 Regular Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Item No. 2. Determination of Quorum. There was a quorum.

Item No. 3. Oaths of Office. Town Administrator/Clerk Amy McCollum administered the Oaths of Office to Debra Korb, Nancy Pulcini and Sharon Sanders.

Item No. 4. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Interim Chairman Smith asked that the Board delay the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman until after the Board has met and worked together for a couple of months to study the dynamics of the group to see who would be best suited for the positions.

Mr. Scott Buzzard moved to appoint L.A. Smith as Interim Chairman until the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are elected. Ms. Dorine Sharp seconded the motion, with votes recorded as follows:

AYES: Pulcini, Sanders, Buzzard, Korb, Sharp and Interim Chairman Smith
NAYS: None

Item No. 5. Approval of Minutes.

A. January 26, 2009 Special Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting. Ms. Sharp moved to approve the January 26, 2009 Special Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting minutes. Ms. Debra Korb seconded the motion, with votes recorded as follows:

AYES: Pulcini, Sanders, Buzzard, Korb, Sharp and Interim Chairman Smith
NAYS: None

Item No. 6. Old Business. There was no Old Business.

Item No. 7. New Business. The Board received a copy of the following:

- Roles and Responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Parks and Recreation Rules of Procedure

- 2009 Meeting Calendar

Ms. Sharp gave a brief synopsis of the reason that the original Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was created. The members of the Planning Board were automatically made members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The Town wanted the ability to apply for potential parks grant money but to do that the Town had to have a board that met quarterly. The Town has since decided that it would like for the Board to be more proactive especially in the area of recreation. The Town Council decided to restructure the Board with individuals that had a passion for parks and recreation.

Everyone on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board introduced themselves and told their reasons for wanting to serve on the Board.

Mayor Nancy Anderson thanked everyone for agreeing to serve on the Board. She stated, "This has been a passion of mine for a long time. I am excited about your energy. You have spoken about having a place to gather. I feel that we do not have a reason to gather."

Mayor Anderson read the following section from the Land Use Plan:

Parks and Recreation. Parks, Recreation and Open Space are an important part of the quality of life element for any community and an important aspect of a land use plan. Recreational facilities in Weddington are presently limited in scope and location. The Town's one existing facility, partially located within the corporate limits, Optimist Park, is located on NC 84. The park contains baseball and soccer fields, a playground, and a picnic area and is currently in the process of expanding. This facility is not owned by the Town, but rather is owned by a private not-for-profit organization. A private, membership-only swim and racquet club is also located on Weddington-Matthews Road. The Town has created a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board that meets on a quarterly basis. This board serves as the lead agency for planning, organizing and coordinating a variety of community improvement and beautification projects.

Mayor Anderson stated, "I want to expand on the beautification. Weddington is a beautiful Town in the subdivisions but along the thoroughfares it is ugly. We need to do a lot more – beautify landscape along the roadways and beautify the acre behind the Town Hall. I would love to have an event quarterly. We can hold the event at the Optimist Park and use the Town Hall for the smaller events. We can use the schools. The Drumstrong event is being held in May and they would love for us to participate."

The Board discussed the landscaping aspect of what Mayor Anderson discussed. It was proposed that the Garden Club could possibly help or that a college student from a local college could design a landscaping plan as a project.

The Town currently has \$15,000 in the Parks and Recreation budget. Interim Chairman Smith advised that the Board must submit a budget to the Town Council by March 15 and the Board needs to determine its priorities.

Ms. Sharon Sanders discussed an event called Baskets Food and Fun (BFF) being held on April 24 at the Weddington Middle School that the Board could possibly participate in.

Ms. Korb felt that there seemed to be two major categories for the Board: One working on finding locations for holding events and one for planning the events. The group discussed selecting

subcommittees to work on the different categories. Ms. Sharp mentioned that the groups would have to comply with the Open Meetings Law. Town Administrator/Clerk McCollum will contact the Town Attorney to find out if the subcommittees would have to comply with the Open Meetings Law. Ms. Korb, Ms. Smith and Mr. Buzzard will be on the location of parks and property issues of the Board and Ms. Sanders and Ms. Pulcici will work on the festivities/events part of the Board.

The Board discussed using the acre behind Town Hall and making it useful for holding events. Ms. McCollum will work on getting prices for taking down the berm.

Ms. Korb discussed grants that are available to the Town for parks and recreational activities that the Board could pursue.

Town Administrator/Clerk McCollum will research when the next Litter Sweep will be held and notify the Board. It was discussed that it would be nice to have an ice cream social after the event; however, Ms. Pulcini advised that people are usually so dirty that they want to go home. Coffee and donuts were suggested to be available before the event starts.

Item No. 8. Continuation. Ms. Sharp moved to continue the meeting until March 5, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Korb seconded the motion, with votes recorded as follows:

AYES:	Pulcini, Sanders, Buzzard, Korb, Sharp and Interim Chairman Smith
NAYS:	None

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

L.A. Smith, Interim Chairman

Attest:

Amy S. McCollum, Town Clerk