



Garner Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources

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Town of Garner Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes Date: November 18, 2024

- I. Date and Time: Pursuant to the Bylaws governing the Garner Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Committee, a meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on November 18, 2024 at the Garner Recreation Center.
- II. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chair Matt Davis called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Committee members present were Matt Davis (Chair); Mon Peng Yueh; Scott Bare; Dr. Pauletta Thompson; Hope Webber; and Senior Citizens Committee Liaison Jo Cicci. Staff in attendance was Maria Munoz-Blanco.
- III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Scott Bare
Second: Dr. Pauletta Thompson
Motion Passed Unanimously
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes (October 21, 2024)

Motion to approve: Mon Peng Yueh
Second: Dr. Pauletta Thompson
Motion Passed Unanimously
- V. Petitions and Comments from the Public

None Reported.
- VI. Committee Members Concerns/Comments

Chair Matt Davis noted that the fields at Thompson Road Park are still not closed when weather conditions are adverse. Maria Munoz-Blanco will follow up with Public Works to ensure gates are locked when the fields are not playable.
- VII. Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Update

Liaison Jo Cicci presented the report of the November 15 meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC). She noted that the committee had discussed the senior housing crisis. Councilwoman Behringer reported to the SCAC that the

Town has hired a new Human Resources Director, Karen Harris, and an Assistant Town Manager is currently under recruitment. The date for the Senior Citizen Day at the Park has been set for 05/14/2025, which is during Older Americans Month. The Garner Senior Center Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for 11/21/2024 and 80 people have signed up. The Holiday Block Party and Christmas Parade will be on 12/07/2024 and the GSC's G-Squad and Line Dancing will participate in the parade. She also reported the number of new members who had signed up to the GSC in September (42) and October (32).

VIII. Reports/Discussion Items

a. Director's Report/Department Updates

Maria Munoz-Blanco presented the monthly report. She highlighted information about new staff Matthew Beard, who will join the department in December, and noted the Chamber of Commerce Award received by GPAC staff Amy Pridgen and Jon Shearin for their inclusive programming.

Ms Munoz-Blanco introduced the topic of splash pad operations, asking for the Committee feedback to options related to group reservations. The Committee discussed how to best manage the splash pad, whether to use an outside vendor for maintenance and operations. There was consensus that an outside vendor would be a good option for the Town as it relates to pool / aquatic operations. The Committee also discussed the option of charging a fee for use of the splash pad. There was agreement on the positive aspects of establishing a fee for use of the splash pad; consider a season pass for residents with a modest fee of \$10 or so; the level of supervision that the splash pad may require; the logistics of fee-based entry and point-of-sale options for passes; using reserved time to avoid long lines; waivers or support for low-income families. Staff will research how neighboring municipalities are handling passes and fees and report back to the committee to continue the discussion of operating policies for the splash pad.

Ms Munoz-Blanco presented to the Committee information about the rezoning request for Yeargan Park, which will be presented to Town Council on 11/19/2024 and continued to 12/03/2024. Copies of the presentation were distributed to the Committee. The request is to rezone CMX with conditions, with specific uses to reflect the economic development options available for the 5-acre area surrounding the homestead. Committee members were supportive of uses that would be complimentary to the park and bring community members together. An example discussed was the Knightdale Station Park and the restaurant / brewery in the area and the Cary Downtown Park.

b. Council Updates

Ms. Munoz-Blanco noted that Councilmember Singleton could not be in attendance due to a family matter.

c. Announcements

None presented.

IX. Other Business

a. Adoption of 2025 Meeting Calendar

The following schedule of proposed dates for the 2025 meeting was distributed:

January 27, 2025	(Fourth Monday due to MLK Holiday)
February 17, 2025	
March 17, 2025	
April 21, 2025	
May 19, 2025	(Officer Nominations)
June 16, 2025	(Officer Elections)
July 21, 2025	(Summer Break?)
August 18, 2025	(Summer Break?)
September 15, 2025	
October 20, 2025	
November 17, 2025	
December 15, 2025	

Committee members were in consensus with the proposed schedule.

X. Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Davis asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn: Scott Bare
Second: Hope Webber
Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.