

Minutes

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Regular meeting

7 p.m. April 16, 2024

Board Meeting Room of Town Hall Annex, 105 E. Corbin St.



Present: Chair Cole Kenworthy, Vice Chair Richard von Furstenberg, Commissioner Robb English, Wendy Kuhn, David Weinberg and Paul Weinberg

Absent: Adam McGovern and Hooper Schultz

Staff: Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood

1. Call to order and confirmation of quorum

Chair Cole Kenworthy called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Public Space and Sustainability Manager Stephanie Trueblood called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

2. Agenda changes and approval

The agenda stood as presented.

Motion: Kenworthy moved to approve. Richard von Furstenberg seconded.

Vote: 6-0

3. Minutes review and approval

Minutes from regular meeting on March 19, 2024

Motion: Wendy Kuhn moved approval of the March 19, 2024, minutes as submitted. Robb English seconded.

Vote: 6-0

4. Discussion items

- A. Continue review of Cates Creek Park Masterplan and discuss potential amendments with Terry Hackett, Stormwater and Environmental Services Manager

Trueblood introduced Hackett and the scope of his position. Hackett described the relationship between his role, the town and the town parks. He discussed stormwater treatment options for a basketball court at Cates Creek Park. He advised keeping the court size below 2,100 square feet to avoid the requirement of a gray water system. At a smaller scale, bioswales would fit the existing park stormwater system.

Paul Weinberg arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Trueblood described the park's role as a model for stormwater and green infrastructure.

Next, Hackett addressed trails at Cates Creek Park. The trails should be designed to minimize impact to the stream buffers. He also noted that new park facilities should be conscious of the trails when their location is determined.

Finally, Hackett advised the preferred location for a town water access point to be located in Gold Park at the Eno River. The water access point should be engineered correctly to withstand high volume foot traffic.

Hackett also discussed future plans to restore the Eno River's natural condition.

5. Parks and recreation-related reports

A. Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Robb English reported that Hackett presented to the Board of Commissioners at the April 8, 2024 meeting. Hackett told of Stormwater and Environmental Services Division success and growth.

English also stated that a town citizen asked the board to terminate religious beliefs on town flags. No action was taken by the board.

B. Planning Board

Since Hooper Schultz was absent, there was no report from the Planning Board.

C. Intergovernmental Parks Work Group

At the April, 2024, Intergovernmental Parks Work Group meeting, Trueblood reported, the group received a presentation of the Eno New Hope Conservation Plan, which is a wildlife corridor plan for Orange County. The plan was adopted and will begin a funding phase. Outcomes of the meeting will be shared with the participants in the meeting notes. Updates of the participating municipalities were provided.

6. Park steward reports

A. Gold Park: Kenworthy reported that the bathrooms needed attention.

B. Cates Creek Park: Adam McGovern found nothing to report.

C. Murray Street Park: Trueblood found nothing to report.

D. King's Highway Park: McGovern stated it was in good condition.

E. Hillsborough Heights Park: David Weinberg reported on a bird's nest in the little library and a protruding bumper nail.

F. Riverwalk Park: Kenworthy found the park in good condition. Trueblood reported bridge maintenance had been completed and brochure boxes replaced.

G. Turnip Patch Park: Wendy Kuhn stated the sculpture needs repair.

7. Staff updates

Trueblood said:

- Repairs were made to the Riverwalk Park bridge.
- The facilities coordinator is transitioning to LED lights in the bathrooms at Gold Park.
- The town has received the skatepark's contract.
- New alignments, cost analysis and benefits analysis for the Ridgewalk Feasibility Study are concluding.
- The South Churton Street Multimodal Corridor Study will be presented to the Board of Commissioners at the May, 2024, workshop.

- English highlighted the ongoing Climate Challenge activities.
- The appropriate entities have been contacted regarding erosion at the Classical American Homes Preservation Trust Bridge.

8. Adjournment

Motion: English moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Kuhn seconded.

Vote: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephanie Trueblood".

Stephanie Trueblood
Public Space and Sustainability Manager
Staff support to the Parks and Recreation Board

Approved: May 21, 2024