



**TOWN OF HARRISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA
HARRISBURG TOWN HALL
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**April 15, 2024
6:00 PM**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. AGENDA ADOPTION

1. Approval of Minutes from March 18, 2024

B. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Harrisburg Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee
2. McKinley Subdivision

C. PUBLIC COMMENT - Anyone wishing to address the Board may do so during the Public Comment section. Please state your name and address for the record, be courteous and do not repeat what has already been said. Please keep your comments about the subject and not personal in nature.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

4. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Department Updates:
1) Jim Spina - Parks and Recreation Director**

5. ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES

6. COUNCIL UPDATES

7. ADJOURNMENT

Vision Statement

Harrisburg will be a distinctive, family-focused community where memories are made.

Mission Statement

Together, we enhance our quality of life by collaborating, planning, and investing to create our community of choice.

MINUTES

Harrisburg Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00p.m. in Town Chambers. Meeting called to order in person by Mohammed Idlibi

In Attendance

Present: Brett CROSBY, Courtney HAYNES, Hannah BUTLER, Mohammed IDLIBI, Cheryl BAKER, Zach BOWMAN, Fred BRILLIANT

Absent: Karen ANDRADE

Board Administrators Present: Jim SPINA Shawn MARBLE

Council Member(s) Present: Chris FAW

Planning and Zoning Member(s) Present: NONE.

Harrisburg Arts, Culture and Heritage (HACH) Member(s) Present:

Town Manager: Rob DONHAM

Agenda Adoption

Motion was made to adopt agenda by committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Special Presentations/Public Comment

- A. INTRO ZACH BOWMAN – new to Harrisburg, born & raised VA. Former police officer. Harrisburg looks like a mini version of where he’s from. Excited to grow and give back here.
- B. ROB DONHAM – TOWN MANAGER
 - 1) BUDGET UPFDATE: REEVALUAION YEAR (looking @ 0.43 tax rate) [General local rates: we’re one of the lowest in area; Kannapolis 0.63, Mount Pleasant .84, Concord: 0.74].
 - Saturday 3/23 – staff input on drafting (all mtgs listed on website)
 - Feedback thus far is primarily increased greenways & that people do not like to pay taxes.
 - If the budget is cut (within doable means) its ultimately a mere 10-15 dollar/month savings; the question, then becomes: is it worth it?
 - P&R– falls under discretionary funding but a popular arena amongst those in the community. Often when people call for decreased spending, they often don’t realize that a sliver of the discretionary spending is P&R.
 - This reevaluation may have links to overall master plan (in progress) as decreased discretionary funding may impact allotment for things needed (new parks, BMX/skateboarding, theater, another amphitheater, improvements/expansions to existing spaces and activities, etc.)
 - Request to PRAB: attending budgetary planning meetings or email councilmember – talk about what’s important to you and those in your community. We can’t outperform surrounding towns without slight increase considering the growth and all that our town has to offer.
 - QUESTIONS FROM BOARD:

- HANNAH – what is the ramification of saying “this is the increase; it is what it is”
-RD: ultimately town responsibility but there are political ramifications. Messaging is key – we may cost more, but the taste is better.
- BRETT – general comment - when we started the Master Plan process, we anticipated a lot of money being needed and we hope that TC takes that into account and that this expensive document we’re spending time/energy/resources on to have it collect dust on a shelf and not be used – take it into consideration in the budget.
- Our town is growing - population boom. Planning now for the future is paramount. People are coming here because we have nice things, and if we don’t plan now for developing for more nice things, they will be overrun and lost in the growth so it’s important to fight for these things now (budget and master plan)

C. HACH –

1) NONE

D. Public Comment

1) NONE

Approval of Minutes

- A. Motion was made to adopt minutes from February 2024 by HANNAH and seconded by BRETT.
Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

A. Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update:

1) JIM:

- Writing of plan going on now.
- Coming to TC meeting in April to provide update and early indications.
- Final presentation will be in July (original in June but being pushed out due to budget and reval final meeting being in June) FAW – need confirmation of total number for budget planning/long term planning (approx.. 25Mil) & how they will handle grants
- Met with person who deals with personnel and will look at how P&R is staffed now, what we’ll need going forward based on what’s going into MP.

New Business

A. P&R Department Updates:

1) SHAWN:

- a) HACH – Art Scholarship is still out there \$1000 – April 19th application deadline.
- b) HACH – Open Mic Night
- c) First event of the year! Hop to the Movies this week – Peter Rabbit on stage + movie (crafts and games)
- d) Practices for spring sports started last Monday – 2400 registrants as of meeting.
- e) General housekeeping at parks continuing (new lights, pond cleaned, painted bathrooms, sodding)
- f) April 20th – 5K.
- g) April 27th – Art Walk.

- h) Vacancies on Advisory Board: June 30th – 4 terms will end (Mohamed, Fred, Hannah, Zach.- all eligible to reapply) application process between April 1 and 30. May to make decision, June will have appointments to council and new terms will begin in July.
- i) Friday, April 5th – Volunteer Dinner. RSVP to McKenzie Burleson.

Advisory Board Updates

A. BRETT:

- General 5K update - 100 runners ahead of where they were last year so it could be big – registration open now.
- 5 kids way from a wait list for camp.
- 20 Mil for YMCA – review for permits, etc. going on now and had first meeting about planning ground breaking ceremony (date TBD but planning in process – PROGRESS!)

Council Updates

A. JIM - Upcoming TC meetings that PRAB members should attend and voice desires for budget – Budget (3/23), General TC 4/8, 5/13, 6/10)

B. COUNCILMAN FAW:

- BUDGET – be advocates. We’re the lowest taxed with the best product. People move here for what this town has to offer. The importance of parks is demonstrated by the MASS involvement in the programs by the community “people vote with their feet” – community input is so important and taken into consideration during budget planning.

Adjournment

Motion made to go into closed session by Cheryl Baker and seconded by Fred Brillante.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm., Monday, March 18, 2024

Next Meeting: meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024 in Town Chambers

Chair

Secretary



TOWN OF HARRISBURG

Agenda Item Details

Title:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Presenting Personnel:

Suggested Motion or Action:

Description/Background:

Recommendation:

Fiscal Impact:

Attachments:

None



TOWN OF HARRISBURG

Agenda Item Details

Title:

Department Updates:

1) Jim Spina - Parks and Recreation Director

Presenting Personnel:

Suggested Motion or Action:

Description/Background:

Recommendation:

Fiscal Impact:

Attachments:

None