

CARRBORO RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING



March 14, 2022

7:00PM – ZOOM

Attendees: Debby Filer, Makeda Ma'at, Maggie Funkhouser, Danny Nowell, Leyla Aydin, Chris Colvin, Anita Jones-McNair

Call the Meeting to Order 7:03pm

Approval of the Minutes

January and February 2022: Moved by Funkhouser, seconded by Filer. Unanimously approved.

Communications and/or Speakers from the Floor

Topic: Sitting secretary and notes-taking for the Commission

Discussion of past practice for note-taking. Typically, Commissions do not have an elected Secretary. Staff are usually the note-takers and level of detail is determined by the commission's preference. Sometimes challenging for chair or staff to take complete notes, while also leading/presenting. We have experimented in this commission with rotating commission members taking notes, with mixed results in terms of consistent level of detail. Would like to aim for more continuity in the future. Jones-McNair is able to do the notes or review notes done by commission members, to ensure accuracy and consistency.

Decision: Laufenberg to serve in an informal note-taking role, with review/confirmation by Anita

Topic: Commission vacancies/appointments/term length

New town Clerk, Wes Barker, is catching up on a backlog.

Colvin has expressed interest in being reappointed for another 2 year term and is allowed to continue to serve until the Council makes a decision. However, he will be away from Carrboro March – July 2022 and only able to participate virtually.

Potential agenda topic for next meeting: Status of each current member's appointment/term, current and projected future vacancies.

Topic: Resurfaced playgrounds look great. Thank you!

New Business

Topic: Election of Officers

Typically held at February meeting. This year holding at March meeting with officers to hold positions April 2022 through February 2023.

Funkhouser elected chair.

Colvin elected vice-chair.

Old Business

- 1) Carrboro Parks Project – they said they would get back with us as to when they could take on some fundraising opportunities. Anita has not heard from them (Susan, Eric) in this respect, so she will reach out and ask for a timeline. They expressed a need to get website up and running before getting comfortable raising money. Fundraising idea previously discussed was a Shade Sail at the dog park, but haven't reached out to Anita (Susan, Eric). Commission can discuss other ideas as well, if there is interest.

This is a potential agenda topic for a future meeting.

- 2) Future Commission Meetings in person options – Boards/commissions to follow council—perhaps with a hybrid for accessibility—still working on resources for hybrid meetings. As state's mask mandate lifted last week, expecting some discussion with Town Council and Town Manager; employees move back in to the office April 11, same day for the council. Rec and parks department is still going to use zoom for some programming. Discussion of windows/ventilation in Century Center meeting rooms previously used for commission meetings.

This is a potential continuing agenda topic for a future meeting. Please share your thoughts about commission meeting accessibility.

- 3) Potential multi-jurisdiction/joint Rec and Parks meeting in either the spring or fall – 2 to 6 separate groups, and up to 50 people. These usually occur every two years or so, with one main topic and then breakout groups for other topics. Green Tract is one possible topic.

Potential agenda topic for next meeting: Ideas or feedback on topics for multi-jurisdiction/joint meeting.

- 4) Tour of park facilities – brief discussion of potential interest and perhaps need to start an hour earlier to have enough daylight.

This is a potential agenda topic for a future meeting.

Reports

Comprehensive Plan Update – Funkhouser

Signed commission recommendation was sent to council. Council held a public forum Feb 22 to receive input from staff, boards/commissions, and public. Council also met on March 7 (Phase 1 adoption of recommendations). Council meeting again on March 22 to vote on synthesizing final half of recommendations/changes, then have a final meeting (or two) to vote up/down. Largely expect our recommendations (as advocated by our committee) to be implemented as-is.

Chair – Colvin, no additional report.

Department – Jones-McNair

- 1) Preparing for Carrboro day (1st Sunday in May—trying to get all departments out).

- 2) Freight train blues concert series, 5 Fridays at Town Commons
- 3) Registration for summer programs began in January and brochure will be going out shortly to continue summer registration.
- 4) Wrapping up data gathering about race/ethnicity of program participants. April 18 will start using racial equity lens to evaluate policies, practices, and procedures.

This is a potential agenda topic for a future meeting.

Agenda items for April

Potential topics from above:

- 1) Status of each current member's appointment/term, current and projected future vacancies.
- 2) Carrboro Parks Project – fundraising for Dog Park Shade Sail or other initiative.
- 3) Future Commission Meetings in person options and accessibility.
- 4) Potential multi-jurisdiction/joint Rec and Parks meeting.
- 5) Tour of park facilities.
- 6) Data about race/ethnicity of recreation and parks program participants.

Other potential topics discussed:

- 7) 203 project update—over budget, \$12.5 million to finalize.
- 8) Splash pad. Committee hasn't specifically requested it, but it is in the comprehensive plan. In the past, we've talked about looking at amenities more holistically, through racial equity lens. Would the committee like to make a recommendation? Also, budget proposals went in a couple weeks ago and there will be public hearings. Colvin recommended a more formal agenda item in the future to decide whether to make a recommendation to the council.
- 9) Recreation center.
- 10) Lack of park access along 54 West. Following up on Bob Proctor's presentation, what can this commission do? In addition, the Town manager is putting together a council meeting agenda item on this topic. Anita will share the details with this commission, when there is more information.

Adjournment 8:15 pm

Moved by Filer, seconded by Laufenberg. Unanimously approved.