

**TOWN OF MINT HILL  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES  
April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

The Park and Recreation Committee of the Town of Mint Hill met in regular session on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mint Hill Town Hall.

**ATTENDANCE**

Chairman: Ron Freeman

Members: Sandy Barnett, Roger Bowden, Ray Thompson, Bryan Burns and Michelle McDonald

Absent: Eddie Mobley

Town Staff: Lee Bailey, Brian Welch, Steve Frey, Chris Cochrane and Garret Trussell

Program Support Assistant: Candice Everhart

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Freeman at 8:00 a.m., who declared a quorum and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance and observe a moment of silence.

**Addition, Deletion and Arrangement of Other Agenda Items:** None.

**Approval of Minutes of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Regular Meeting:** Mr. Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bowden and unanimously agreed, to approve the minutes of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting with one correction, to change that Mr. Thompson recognized Commissioner Newton to Mr. Freeman recognized him.

**Reports of Committees, Members and Staff:** No reports were submitted for the Agenda Packet from Staff.

**Old Business:** None. Mrs. Barnett asked for the topic to be added, if the soccer fields could be rotated possibly throughout the year so that it would allow for them to stay open throughout the summer. Mr. Trussell said, that is something we can discuss at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

- A. Discussion and Decision on Resolution for Support of the Athletic Park for PARTF Grant:** *Mr. Frey said, we have concluded the public involvement meetings in March. The point of those meetings was to take a sketch drawing and receive feedback from the public. I emailed a full thorough report to you all. It included a write-up and summary of each meeting as well as the raw data and charts from the meetings. It is important to remember this is not a scientific poll. We asked everyone to only vote once. Most people wanted fields that could be multi-use and a close second was baseball. People were confused that we were going to have 7500 seats and not the 750 that was proposed for the baseball stadium and once that was clarified everyone was content. The most conversations I had was how is the park going to be programmed and who will have priority. The PARTF grant that we are going to shoot for is \$300,000. The consultant*

*said that if we asked for the full \$500,000 that it might bump us out of the running because they typically look to places that don't already have parks. One document you have is a resolution stating that you support the park as a whole and the Town's efforts towards the park. You don't have to like the details such as where the fields are placed, parking, etc., you just need to support it as a whole. The colorful document is the conceptual sketch drawing to take to the Board. Since it was largely supported by folks, we are going to take it to the Board of Commissioners on Thursday and will be adopted as the master plan and support for the PARTF grant as well. The only changes that you will see from the conceptual drawing and this is that this says Master Plan and bringing water and sewer on site is presenting a bigger problem than we thought. Significant costs are associated with this. The nearest water line is 6,000' away. We have talked to Charlotte Water about possibly hooking up to Ashe Plantation once they take that over. We have no answer about that yet, just discussion. When public utilities become available at the site there could be another area for another field.*

*Mrs. Barnett asked is that the turf field? Mr. Frey said, one of the architects spoke up and said if we do go forward with a turf field that would be a crown jewel and we should put that toward the front. We would still have netting and protective equipment.*

*Mr. Thompson could you not build a playing field on top of septic? Mr. Frey said, a septic field has to remain as unharmed as possible because it will compact the ground above.*

*Mr. Freeman asked, is the same gentleman writing the grant that did the first one? Mr. Frey said yes.*

*Mr. Bowden asked, what feedback are we getting from the adjacent residents to the proposed park? Mr. Frey said, the house that is in the park that is Mr. Alton. He is highly favorable of the park. The only things he asked that we use natural screening and be courteous of the lights. Some people across the street next to MHAA express some security concerns about MHAA with people doing donuts in the parking lot and such.*

*Mrs. Barnett asked, will there be lighting on the turf field? Mr. Frey said, yes the plan right now is to light the turf field and the baseball field. Looking at LED cost is going to be the driving factor.*

**Mr. Bowden made a favorable motion to approve the Resolution for support of the Athletic Park for PARTF Grant. Mrs. Barnett seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed.**

**B. Discussion and Decision on Park Major Event Application for Barks, Bones and Biscuits, LLC.:** Mr. Bailey said, this is a Major Event Application for June 12<sup>th</sup>. I sent an email yesterday with updated details. This application came in a little late and not fully complete. I am not being negative, just open and upfront. The applicant has provided a layout which needs to be fine tuned due to the number of vendors and parking, etc. It is a concern for David Leath. They had an hour setup time and that is not

realistic. It will be much more than that. Staff suggested we have a meeting with the applicant because there were some concerns we needed to clarify. The event is to help raise funds for GPS dog collars. If approved the event is supposed to run from noon to five pm. The police department will determine the number of off duty officers to be paid for the event. I think the volunteers and boy scouts will be helping with parking. The volunteer fire department requires one EMT on site. There will also be two maintenance staff there to be paid. If you would like to flip through the application and review the details that would be good. This is the first major event at the park for this applicant.

Mrs. Kline asked if there were any questions.

*Mr. Burns said I count twenty-seven vendors and then there are food trucks too. That looks like a lot in a very small area. My question is the clean up, not of food but after the dogs. It's not a true clean up that we are going to hold an event for five hours and then turn this back over for kids to play on. Do we have any sanitary way to clean up?* Mr. Bailey said, we have the doggie bags out there.

*Mr. Thompson asked, where have you had an event like this?* Mrs. Kline said, at my storefront on the Betty Walkers strip mall. We have two a year there with twenty-six vendors. We've never had any concerns with dog issues and the vendors cleaned up their own messes. We have a lot of volunteers other than me out there to be cleaning and making sure everyone is held accountable.

*Mrs. Barnett said, to speak on Robin's behalf, she does a lot of fundraising. It might be a good idea to raise funds for a dog park some day.*

*Mr. Freeman asked, how many dogs do we anticipate?* Mrs. Kline said we are totally sure. One thing we strongly enforce is that there can't be retractable leashes so that everyone has to be restraining their dog the whole time.

*Mrs. Barnett asked, which way are the food trucks coming in? Is it the inside of the fence?* Mrs. Kline said yes there is a gate there.

*Mr. Freeman asked, is the field scheduled?* Mr. Bailey said, no we don't reserve it.

*Mr. Freeman said, maybe we could close the field for about a week after so we could get a good rain or something to help with the sanitary issue.*

*Mr. Burns said I think that would be a good solution.* Mr. Cochrane said, we have sprinklers that we could turn on out there, we just don't have to use them often because the irrigation is good out there.

*Mrs. Barnett asked, are there still issues to resolve Lee?* Mr. Bailey said, there are some health department issues and precise locations of the tents to have room, possible wheelchair access, etc. but they are aware of the issues.

*Mr. Freeman said, is this going to bump anyone off that usually has a Major Event at the park? Mr. Bailey said, I don't believe so. It is first come first serve any ways.*

**Mr. Freeman made a favorable motion to approve the Park Major Event Application for Barks, Bones and Biscuits, LLC. Mr. Bowden seconded the motion and the Committee unanimously agreed.**

**Other Business:** None.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Bowden made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Thompson and the Committee unanimously agreed. Chairman Freeman adjourned the meeting at 8:38 a.m.

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Candice Everhart  
Program Support Assistant