

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting
3-7-16

Council Chambers

Minutes & General Account

Parks & Recreation Committee Members Present: Lynn Tice, Chair; Robert Pickett, Vice-Chair; Charles Dowdy, Bob Wilson, Steve Owen, Jim Pendry, and Town Council Representative Lawrence Straughn

Staff: Chuck Smith & Martha Wolfe

Visitors: Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News

1. Call to Order – Lynn Tice, Chair, called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from the February 1, 2016 meeting – Bob Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Robert Pickett made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Discussion and input on the Mission & Vision Statement for the Town of Jamestown – Chair Tice stated that Mayor Volz was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to an illness. The Town Manager led the discussion. He stated the Parks & Recreation members received the draft of the Mission/Vision statement at last month's meeting for the members to review. Tonight's meeting we are discussing any comments the Parks & Recreation members may have.

The Town Manager stated the President of the Historic Jamestown Society had contacted the Mayor and was in the process of providing comments directly to him. These comments will provide the historic element to be included in the statements.

The draft was sent to the President of the JBA. At this time, no comments have been received.

The Town Manager asked if there was any discussion/comments from this committee. Bob Wilson stated he actually liked the wording from the original Vision Statement for Jamestown in the Year 2020. This Vision Statement was approved as part of the 2020 Land Development Plan. He liked the use of the wording "Town Center" instead of Main Street. He liked the use of "Neighborhood Activity Centers". He felt those 2 phrases were good.

Several committee members felt the Town parks & recreational assets should be included specifically. The three facilities could possibly be incorporated into the 2nd phrase of the Vision Statement and added as a focus. To include:

- Wrenn Miller Park
- Jamestown Park & Golf Course
- Walkways

Council Member Straughn stated the only drawbacks with the term “Town Center” is it seems to keep the focus on just the downtown area. Main St. extends past Deep River. We seem to forget that part of Town.

The Parks & Recreation Committee felt it proper to add in the Mission Statement the recreational facilities; Wrenn Miller Park, Jamestown Park and the walkways. The Town is investing a lot of money into Jamestown Park and they felt it needed to be identified by name to ensure future governing bodies, staff and Board & Committees maintain these recreational assets. The recommendation by the Parks & Recreation Committee is to specify these 3 recreational assets.

The group discussed terms that would be a better use than Main St. The Committee discussed the term “small town”. Is this a true description of the vision? Is it a true statement to say the vision is to remain a small town and not look to grow in population? Council Member Straughn stated there is room for growth, but managed growth. Wilson stated geographically the Town will never be a big city. Council Member Straughn stated he feels people choose Jamestown because of its size and quaintness.

The Parks & Rec. Committee felt other descriptive words for Jamestown is that it is convenient, ease of pedestrian and vehicular travel. Pickett commented that *neighborly environment* may sound better than *neighborly atmosphere*. Wilson felt that *small town* was positive and quaint wording.

The Town Manager added that in the 2020 Vision it is stated “small town” character and charm. The 2020 Vision is still a part of the approved 2020 plan. The proposed draft of the Vision and Mission statement originated with the Mayor. The Mayor’s goal is to have an adopted Vision & Mission Statement which is an organizational statement for the Boards & Committees, the Council and staff to use as a future guide.

The Town Clerk stated the Planning Board is going to give their feedback next week. Then the Council will meet on 3-16-16. The Council will receive the comments from the boards. Council Member Straughn would like to hear comments from JBA. The Town Clerk said we will follow up with them.

4. Request to approve submitting application for a Tree Inventory Grant – The Town Clerk stated Carrie Spencer is out sick. She presented the Urban & Community Forestry Grant on her behalf. She stated at the last Parks & Recreation meeting Spencer brought up the idea of the Tree Inventory Grant. The deadline to apply for this grant is the end of March. She would like to have the Parks & Recreation Committee actually vote in support of the project. This support would carry a lot of weight when she makes application.

The awards are made the end of July. We would know the first of August if we received the grant. It is a 50/50 match. However, there is no cost to the Town. The Town’s contributions is in-kind, meaning staff time and volunteer time is allowed for our match. We would ask Parks & Recreation members to volunteer and we would seek other volunteers. The scope of the project has been scaled down and does not include Jamestown Park due to the large number of trees.

Jim Pendry made a motion to support recommending the Town of Jamestown apply for an Urban & Community Forestry Grant. Charles Dowdy made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. This recommendation will be given to the Town Council for final approval.

5. Nominate Parks & Recreation Alternate Member – The Town Clerk said Jay McQuillan did contact her. He is interested in serving as an alternate and he has submitted a completed Citizen Application form. Bob Wilson made a motion to recommend approval of Jay McQuillan as an alternate to the Parks & Recreation Committee. Council Member Straughn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
6. Public Comment Period - No one registered to speak.
7. Other Business –

Charles Dowdy said he recently toured the new Veterans Center at GTCC. The Jamestown Veterans Committee donated \$10,000.00 toward the project. Dowdy said it is a very nice place for Veterans to gather and support each other. Dowdy just asked if there was some way the Town could help homeless veterans with housing.

The Town Clerk announced upcoming community events:

- April 16, 2016 – Play at the Park – Jamestown Park & Golf Course
- April 29, 2016 – Arbor Day Ceremony
- May 21, 2016 – Community Yard Sale – Wrenn Miller Park
- May 29, 2016 – Memorial Day Parade
- June 18, 2016 – Music Event – Wrenn Miller Park
- July 23, 2016 – Music Event – Wrenn Miller Park
- August 2, 2016 – 2nd National Night Out – Wrenn Miller Park
- August 6th, 2016 – Family Services Pig Pickin’
- August 13, 2016 – Music Event – Wrenn Miller Park
- October 1, 2016 – Jamestown Day – Bicentennial Celebration

The Town Manager provided an update on the Clubhouse Renovation Project. He passed around drawings of new signage proposed for Jamestown Park. We are running a little behind schedule on the Clubhouse due to the weather. Looking at early June to have completed.

The Town Manager said he and John Crowe are working with the architect to get a firmer price on the Greens Renovation Project. It is difficult to get prices on quantities. The contract is currently under review by the Town Attorney. We are near a pre-bid conference for contractors.

Pickett asked about the amount of mix and cost of the mix. The Town Manager said the problem is the sub-grade. To simply add mix to the greens drove the cost way up. Crowe is working with the architect to come up with a good plan with some cut & fill areas where we know there is good soil. We are still working through the variables.

Bob Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Straughn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting ending at 6:52 pm.