

MINUTES

City Council Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee

Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 3:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present: Mac Morrow, Chair, Council Member
Aaron Baker, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Nancy DePippo, Citizen Member (via Zoom)
Howie Granat, Citizen Member
Ryan Olson, At-Large Member

Absent: Matt Christian, Citizen Member
Tim Robinson, Citizen Member

Staff Present: Wilson Hooper, City Manager
Aaron Bland, Assistant Planning Director
Katherine Buzby, Planner
Wesley Shook, Acting Public Works Director
Denise Hodsdon, City Clerk

Media: Jon Rich, Transylvania Times

Guests: Monica Driscoll, Resident

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Mac Morrow welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

B. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by City Clerk Denise Hodsdon.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Granat, seconded by Mr. Baker, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes from December 21, 2022 Meeting

Motion by Mr. Granat, seconded by Mr. Baker, to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2022 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Adopt-a-Green Space Application

Katherine Buzby presented an application for the Adopt-a-Green Space program from the Rotary Club of Brevard requesting to adopt Clemson Plaza and the area at the Depot not maintained by the Garden Club. The Rotary Club would perform tasks including pulling weeds, litter pick up, cleaning and some pressure washing, and spreading mulch (if the City provides) at both locations. Motion by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mr. Granat to approve the application. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Year of the Trail

Mr. Hooper shared information with the committee about the “Year of the Trail” activities in the state of North Carolina. The committee viewed a video describing the initiative and discussed possible ways in which Brevard could participate, such as a Council resolution declaring support for the program and hosting events around the Estatoe Trail. Mr. Hooper suggested that Staff start convening other interested participants and see what they would be willing to do for the effort. The committee will continue discussion on this matter in the weeks and months to come.

G. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 3:30 PM.

Additional Comments:

Mr. Granat and Mr. Olson shared an update on fundraising for the Bracken Preserve extension. The funding gap is now approximately \$23,000, and they asked if the City would be willing to increase its contribution in order to close the gap. Mr. Hooper suggested taking this out of the committee forum and that he work with Mr. Granat and Mr. Olson on the particulars of this request before taking it back to Council. Mr. Granat added that now that Conserving Carolina owns the property, he is working with them on the next phase of the project. They are utilizing the donated services of trail builder Todd Branham and will start building out plans and maps to use for grant proposals and fundraising efforts for building the trails.

Mr. Hooper informed the committee that staff has assessed the double bollards on the new section of the Estatoe Trail and has settled on keeping them there for now for a couple of reasons: 1) there is vehicular traffic in that area that might mistake the trail for a driveway and they serve as a visual and physical deterrent; and 2) because they are in the ground and they are substantial, it would take quite an effort to remove them. We are going to put reflective tape on them and will reassess after we have had a period to see how they fit in with the trail environment. He noted that this is still an open project and we are working on a number of punch list items.

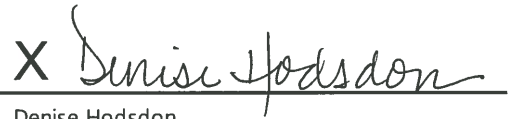
H. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:21 pm.

X 

Mac Morrow,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: April 19, 2023

X 

Denise Hodsdon
City Clerk