

Town of Mills River
Regular Meeting of the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 24, 2022

The Mills River Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Committee met Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Commons Room at Mills River Town Hall. The Town of Mills River held the meeting electronically as well as in person. The following committee members were present: Tammy Ross, Tristan Cowie, Laura Moore, John Case, and Tim Doane. Ameena Zia attended via Zoom conference calling. Mills River Parks and Recreation Director, Nicole Sweat, Town Manager Daniel Cobb, and Deputy Town Clerk, Patty Brown were present.

The meeting was called to order by Tristan Cowie at 7:00 pm.

Tammy Ross made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by John Case and it passed by verbal assent.

The Minutes from April 26, 2022 were reviewed by the committee. Tammy Ross made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Tim Doane and it passed by verbal assent.

The floor was open for public comment. None was given. The public could attend by ZOOM. Since it was an electronic meeting, the public has 24 hours for public comment to be made by emailing info@millsriver.org.

Announcements:

Stacy Taylor has resigned from her position on the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory committee. The position has been advertised.

The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be Friday, May 27 at Town Hall.

There are 33 participants signed up for tennis lessons and 9 participants for Pickleball. Those lessons begin next week.

Old Business:

Picnic Shelter/Restroom Facility

The permitting has been completed with Henderson County. Groundbreaking should begin in the next couple of weeks.

Riverbank Restoration Project

The restoration is complete and the trail is open. The parking lot at the boat launch is not open due to NC DOT (North Carolina Department of Transportation) needing to finish connecting Hooper Lane to the park drive.

FY 22-23 Budget Update-Town Manager Daniel Cobb

Town Manager Daniel Cobb gave a presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. It will be presented to Council on Thursday. The budget should be on the website Friday morning with a budget hearing set for June 23. A Parks and Recreation Programmer position is in the budget year as are monies dedicated to programming. The managed mowed meadow project has been moved from a future Capital Project year to this upcoming year, as has a new ATV/golf cart since the Polaris is in need of replacement. Other projects slated are resurfacing the tennis courts and purchasing the Civic Rec software for shelter reservations and program registration. Mr. Cobb was asked about the need for a pickup truck. He explained that Council asked the Banner Farm Road property project (also referred to as Brandy Branch property) be moved to a later fiscal year. Because of that, it was thought to move the pickup truck to a later year also. Discussion followed after Mr. Cobb left. Chairman Cowie reiterated with the committee that PARKS BUILD COMMUNITY and that needs to be pushed by the committee members and citizens to Council.

New Business:

Policy Discussion-Fee Waiver Policy

At a recent Council meeting Ms. Sweat and Mr. Cobb were tasked with drafting a fee waiver policy to keep all requests for fee waivers from coming to Council. Ms. Sweat presented the drafted Facility and Event Fee Waiver Guideline Policy with

the committee. Discussion followed. Tristan Cowie made a motion for Ms. Sweat to present the draft Facility and Event Fee Waiver Guideline Policy to Council and recommends that Council adopt the policy. John Case seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by verbal assent.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28.

Tammy Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Case and it passed by unanimous verbal assent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Patty Brown
Administrative Assistant