

Recreation Committee Meeting 1/25/22

Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Paul Henriques

Attending Committee Members

Paul Henriques

Tom Hefner

Timothy Fish - Absent

Kip Tabb

Others Present:

Charlotte Walker - Town Council

Sandy Hawley - Town

Minutes of October 27, 2020 meeting approved as stands.

Agenda approved unanimous

Old Business:

Connector Trail Discussion

General discussion about the new Birch Lane Trail and its use and status. Kip Tabb described the wide use the trail is receiving now that it is a well-defined trail from Kitty Hawk Park to Birch Lane.

Chairman Henriques voiced concerns about maintenance of the trail, that without proper maintenance the trail could be dangerous, saying, "I'm coming at it from a safety standard. I consider myself an expert biker bicycle rider if you will. I'm actually crashing and falling and slipping going out of control every almost every time I ride on that trail."

Committee member Tabb agreed, noting a problem he had had when riding the trail. Pine straw hid root stubs and a stub caught his tire and cause a blowout.

Discussion focused on difference in maintenance between state park and maritime forest.

Chair asked Kip Tabb to write an email to Eric Alnes, Site Manager, to see what could be done.

Heritage Day

Subject broached by Committee Member Tom Hefner, pointing out that at one time the event was very popular. Discussion focused on practical considerations to revive the event.

Committee member Tabb noted the idea could be viable, but it would take research.

“We have to find a way to make sure that the town of Kitty Hawk will see a direct benefit from it,” he said.

Discussion included potential locations, and if the history of the event could be researched.

Chairman Henriques asked Committee Members Tabb and Hefner to begin discussions on what could be done and report back to the committee.

Tabb made a Motion that the committee begin to examine the issue more fully. Chair seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Pump Track Ramp

Chairman Henriques brought diagrams and a video to the meeting to explain what a pump track is.

Chairman has been a proponent of a pump track since he first got on the committee. According to design work done by John De Lucia, engineer, Henriques said, there is room for a pump track at Kitty Hawk Park next to the dog park. Typically, a pump track takes 10,000 sq. ft.

Chair contacted Velsolutions, a Swiss company with an American affiliate, American Ramp Company with offices in Joplin, MO. Although Velosolutions can design and build it is possible to get the design from them and have a contractor build the track.

The approximate cost, according to Henriques is \$300,000.

Tabb wondered if the track was placed at Kitty Hawk Park, a county facility, if there could be shared costs in building it and if the Tourist Bureau might have grants available if one of the goals would be to have competitions there.

Henriques indicated he has been in email contact with Town Manager Andy Stewart about the track.

Tabb make a motion that a pump track be placed on Town council agenda to consider. Hefner second. Motion passed unanimously

New Business

2022-23 Budget

Discussion about what items should or could be a priority for Town Council. During discussion, Chair noted the American Ramp Company would charge \$7500 for the design of a pump track.

Discussion followed looking at government procedures for procurement (Request for Quote [RFQ]) and ways to offset costs, including volunteer labor and donations.

Discussion about best way to bring Pump Track to Town Council to try to get funding included in the upcoming budget. Discussion followed about what would be the best time to present the information to Council

Liaison Walker suggested for the time being it may be better to continue to work through Town Manager.

Committee in general discussion felt it would be better to hold off specific recommendations for budget items until the April meeting.

Committee Member Comments

Chair Paul Henriques

Saying he wanted, "The...committee to really start thinking about things that we can do..." the Chair challenged committee members to be more engaged with the work of the Recreation Committee. The committee needs fresh ideas as well as full discussion to effectively fulfill its mission. He also asked for any recommendations to fill the vacant seat.

Committee Member Kip Tabb

Committee Member Tabb

Noting that Kitty Hawk has significantly less beach parking than neighboring towns, saying, "We really have significantly less than others." He posed the question if it would be either feasible or legal to lease little or unused parking spaces from beach front businesses to be used during the daytime for beach parking.

Legality, liability and whether generally the concept was even feasible was discussed, with Tabb commenting, "That's why I said it was very tentative."

After discussion, CM Tabb agree to contact the Town Attorney to see if the concept was legal under the town's ordinances.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15

Minutes approved at the April 26, 2022 meeting.