

Minutes Town of Kitty Hawk Recreation Committee Meeting July 26, 2022
Kitty Hawk Recreation Committee Meeting
Kitty Hawk Town Hall

Minutes

1. Agenda/Attendance
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Election of Officers: Chairman, Vic-Chairman, Secretary
4. Approval of Minutes from 04/26/2022
5. Public Comment:
6. Old Business:
 - Pump track ramp update
 - Return trail-Birch Lane to KH Park (update from LAC meeting)
 - Trails/Parking (Ridge Road area)
 - Heritage Day
 - Pedestrian crossing lights for Va. Dare Trail
 - Multiuse path for Va. Dare Trail (west side)
7. New Business:
 - Review Town Guide for updates
8. Items from Council Liaison:
9. Items brought up by Committee Members:
10. Next meeting date (on the calendar for October 25, 2022, Regular Meeting)
11. Adjourn

1. Meeting called to order

Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Committee members present:

Paul Henriques - Chair

Kip Tabb - Secretary

Paul Mantz

Ryan Thibodeau

Absent: Timothy Fish

Other town officials in attendance:
Charlotte Walker - Town Council Liaison
Sandy Myers - Town Staff Liaison

2. Proposed agenda approved

Kip Tabb motion to approve. Motion carried

3. Slate of Officers

To bring the Recreation Committee into compliance with town guidelines the committee needs a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. After discussion the committee approved the following slate:

Chair: Paul Henriques

Vice Chair: Kip Tabb

Secretary: Ryan Thibodeau

Following approval of minutes, new committee member Paul Mantz introduced himself.

- Grew up in Suffolk, VA
- Graduated from VMI
- 30 year veteran of the Navy
- Growing up in Tidewater always viewed Outer Banks as a second home and after retiring from the Navy decide to move to Kitty Hawk.

4. Approval of Minutes from 4/26/22

Minutes approved as presented.

5. Public Comment

No public comment

6. Old Business:

Pump track ramp update

Paul Henriques: Asked council liaison Charlotte Walker if she had any updates on the idea. Asked specifically if council or Town Manager Andy Stewart had indicated the town was moving forward with the idea.

Councilwoman Walker indicated she had not heard anything from council or the town manager on the issue.

Henriques asked if the Pump Track could be included on a future town council agenda.

Two years ago the Chair had met with Dare County Recreation Supervisor Tim White on whether he would be in favor of a pump track at the Dare County managed Kitty

Hawk Park. Because there has been little movement since that time, he felt the initiative has “gone flat.”

Ryan Thibodeau brought up the possibility of a public/private partnership as a way to fund the idea.

The Chair added the back side of Kitty Hawk Park would be the “perfect location.”

A general discussion of whether or not the town would accept private donations to move the project forward followed after Thibodeau asked if the town would look on that favorably.

Discussion among the committee also addressed the possibility of grant funding from the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau because a pump track has the possibility of bringing visitors from outside the area.

- *Return trail-Birch Lane to KH Park (update from LAC meeting) Trails/Parking (Ridge Road area)*

The LAC is the Local Action Committee for Kitty Hawk Woods. The Chair is the liaison for the Recreation Committee.

Birch Lane connector trail did not come up in the LAC meeting.

Henriques did express concern that access to some trails was being restricted to accommodate hunting.

Kip Tabb requested that the Chair notify the committee when the LAC meetings occur.

- *Heritage Day*

Kip Tabb noted that given the complexity of putting on a Heritage Day, it was not a practical project at this time.

- *Pedestrian crossing lights for Va. Dare Trail*

Discussion began with acknowledgement that the town’s crosswalks on Virginia Dare Trail were hard to see even in the daytime.

Discussion about the lights focused on how well the existing crosswalk lights in other towns handled conditions as close to the ocean as they were. Ryan Thibodeau indicated would check with Southern Shores on maintenance issues with the lights.

Committee Member Mantz noted the primary function of the Recreation Committee was public safety, and suggested a master plan that would include beach access, lighting and traffic patterns. Within that context he wondered if traffic could be reconfigured on portions of Virginia Dare Trail to be one way.

Secretary Tabb pointed out that reconfiguring the direction of traffic was a NCDOT and urban planning decision and beyond the scope of the committee.

Chair Henriques noted that the idea was specifically within the scope of NCDOT and not something the committee could take on.

- *Multiuse path for Va. Dare Trail (west side)*

There is 18' between the road line to the property lines of properties.

Chairman Henriques noted that Kill Devil Hills has a pedestrian path commission. "I think we need to look into what they're doing there," he said.

The committee has a mandate to look at pedestrian movement and how to expand multiuser paths.

It was also noted that Manteo and Dare County have similar committees.

Tabb noted that the Town of Duck has an innovative multiuse path design that places bike riders by the road to separate them from foot traffic.

Tabb wondered if a subcommittee might be advisable to look at the issue.

Henriques said he would check with the Kill Devil Hills committee.

A general discussion followed looking at the Recreation Committee as a sounding board for public ideas on recreation.

New Business

Town Guide sent per Sandy Myers.

Suggestions included making it clear the Kitty Hawk Woods Trail connected with Kitty Hawk Park. The trail also needed to be marked as appropriate for mountain bikes.

There were also some questions about whether restrooms at parking area were clearly marked.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes approved at the October 25, 2022 meeting.