

Town of Pleasant Garden
Recreation Board
November 27, 2007
Kirkman Municipal Building

Next meeting scheduled for January 22, 2007

Minutes
Regular Meeting

In attendance

Georgia Amick
Cristina Bragg
Chris Culler, Vice Chairman
Brent Lewis, Chair

Also in attendance

Eddy Patterson / Council Liaison
Darla Robenolt / Asst. Town Clerk (Part-time)
Diana Schreiber / Town Clerk

Audience

3

Call to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Lewis
Invocation / Moment of silence led by Chairman Lewis
Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Lewis

Roll Call

Assistant Town Clerk Robenolt called the roll. A quorum was present. Ms. Cox and Ms. Patterson were absent. Chairman Lewis made a motion to excuse Ms. Cox and Ms. Patterson. Ms. Amick seconded the motion. **4/0; the motion carried.**

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Lewis made a motion approve the agenda. Vice Chairman Culler seconded the motion. **4/0; the motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the October 23, 2007 meeting were presented for review and comment. Chairman Lewis asked if there were any changes. With no changes to be made Chairman Lewis made a motion to approve the October 23, 2007 minutes. Vice Chairman Culler seconded the motion. **4/0; the motion carried.**

Presentations

None

Reports

Veteran's Day: Sunday, November 11 – Chairman Lewis reported that he had heard a lot of feedback and great remarks about the Veteran's Appreciation Day event. He thanked Sharron and Bill Wright and Eddy Patterson specifically and generally thanked everyone who had worked so hard to make the event a great success and memorable event. Chairman Lewis went on to say that it was a testament to the town and how everyone can come together to make this type of event special. Assistant Town Clerk Robenolt asked Chairman Lewis for the contact information / addresses for all the volunteers / people involved in the event in order to mail out appreciation notes. Chairman Lewis indicated he would get that information and make it available.

Unfinished Business

Christmas Parade: Saturday, December 1 – Cristina Bragg, Chair – Ms. Bragg went over a list of parade details (attached) to coordinate things that still need to be done. Chairman Lewis asked about cars and if there were enough to carry the parade dignitaries? Some discussion took place as to the vehicles available and who would be assigned to ride in which vehicle. Ms. Bragg stated that Eric Chilton (Grand Marshall) will bring his children so a vehicle is needed to carry he and his kids. The Nissan being loaned by York Nissan may be the vehicle. Discussion continued as to who would be riding in which available vehicle. Council Liaison Patterson mentioned that Jerry McPherson with Black Chevrolet lives in Pleasant Garden and could probably supply a vehicle at a moment's notice if needed. Some discussion took place between Chairman Lewis and Ms. Bragg regarding how the participants would be checked in and lined up on Nesbit Road. Discussion about where the judges will be – hardware store, Glen Morgan's packaging store, at the strip mall, etc. took place. It was decided that the judges tent should be at the strip mall in front of Picture Perfect / Carolina Sports by 9:30. The judges are Glen Morgan, Sharon Evans, and Council Liaison Patterson will ask a friend of his to also be a judge. Council Liaison Patterson asked if there were shirts / vests for 'staff' so people could readily identify the parade volunteers / workers? Chairman Lewis indicated he had some soccer polo shirts that could be used. Town Clerk Schreiber will ask the transportation department for some orange vests. Council Liaison Patterson indicated the vests could be 'sprayed' with STAFF or something to indicate the person was working on the parade. Councilman Patterson suggested that parade participants should wait in the Town Hall parking lot if their entire parade group isn't here to line up at the time they sign-in. He also suggested that each board member should get 2 – 5 people / volunteers to help with the parade. Chairman Lewis indicated he would call soccer coaches, etc. to get them out to help. Town Clerk Schreiber indicated there would be a volunteer sign-in sheet and every volunteer should sign-in so we can keep track of who's working on the parade. Council Liaison Patterson let everyone know he had been calling the Hooker Furniture people and has not been able to reach anyone to let them know the parade would be ending in their area and to ask them if they would open the locked fence so people could turn their vehicles around and meet up with their rides there. More discussion took place as to how / where to end the parade – church across from NC Tool? Some discussion then took place regarding train traffic since Town Clerk Schreiber had not gotten a response from her letter to the train companies letting them know of the parade and to avoid having trains pass through during the parade. Chairman Lewis indicated that he and his crew from the Fire Department would be setting up the road barricades on Friday evening. Discussion took place as to where to station the State Troopers and the Sheriff's for best use of their services – Nesbit and Alliance Church / Nesbit and Pleasant Garden Road / Pleasant Garden Road and Spur Road / blocking the entrance to Nesbit Road from Pleasant Garden Road / at the end of the parade to help direct traffic, etc. Ms. Bragg mentioned that Bob Wyrick would be glad to be the emcee if Mr. Culler doesn't want to do it. Mr. Wyrick did it last year and was quite good. Mr. Culler agreed to let him do it. Per Ms. Bragg, Mr. Wyrick would rather emcee than ride in the parade as a Council Elect member. Discussion took place as to how to get updated parade participant information to the emcee in a timely fashion. Ms. Bragg

suggested that a volunteer be stationed at the stage to receive radio information about changes and pass the information along to the emcee. Lengthy discussion took place as to how to line up the parade participants on Nesbit Road and make sure there's enough space for each group. Chairman Lewis suggested numbering the side of the road with segments of space for participants to align with. Ms. Amick was asked to get 2,000 pieces of Christmas candy / not to exceed \$100 for Santa to toss out to the crowd from the fire truck. Ms. Bragg indicated she had ordered the trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. Town Clerk Schreiber showed the board a banner she had found with Town of Pleasant Garden on it that could be carried at the beginning of the parade (there was some discussion about a Christmas banner that had been carried in the past, but could not be found to use this year). Council Liaison Patterson volunteered to get some bows to attach to the banner. It was suggested that Matt Furlough and Taylor Amick could carry the banner. Town Clerk Schreiber indicated she was having a SIGN-IN banner made to hang on the sign-in tent for parade participants and a JUDGES banner to hang on the judges tent. The banners are 6' x 1'. Ms. Bragg let everyone know the Pleasant Garden Community Center would be open for use during the parade if needed. Assistant Town Clerk Robenolt indicated that Rick Hartgrove volunteered to document the parade via digital images and sound and would supply a copy to the town. He needs to be at an elevated place for the best vantage point. Some discussion took place as to where he could be positioned – on the roof of Patterson's Carpets, on the stage in front of Patterson's Carpets, on the bed of his truck in the parking lot near the Judges tent, etc. Ms. Amick indicated that there would probably be more participants signing up on parade day because there usually are. Town Clerk Schreiber stated that she would have receipts and a cash box available.

Chairman Lewis stated that the Christmas banners on the posts up and down Pleasant Garden Road look great and will look good during the parade. Vice Chairman Culler indicated he would ask Randy when the trailer / stage would be available. Chairman Lewis indicated it should be set up by 7:00 am. Some discussion took place as to whether the stage would be set up at the old hardware store / new packaging store parking lot or at Patterson's Carpet. The emcee will be at Patterson's Carpet. Discussion took place as to whether two (2) stages would be needed next year. Councilman Patterson stated that media coverage for next year's parade should be 'staged' earlier in the process to get all the press coverage we can. Town Clerk Schreiber indicated she would get out a press release via e-mail within the next day or so.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Chairman Lewis stated that the dinner is being re-scheduled for the third Thursday in January – January 17 (originally planned for Thursday, December 6) in order to allow time to gather volunteer names / addresses to supply to Town Hall so invitations can be written / sent out / RSVPs received. Also, the Board's energies have been focused toward getting the Christmas Parade organized and little has been done to prepare for the dinner at this point. More time is needed. We did get the Town Council to approve \$1,000 for the event. Chairman Lewis made a motion to wait on making any decisions about the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner until after the December 11 Town Council meeting then cancelled the motion. Ms. Amick interjected that in the future the Recreation Board should do the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and let the Town Council do something separately for the Boards and Town Council members. Chairman Lewis indicated he would e-mail everyone on the 2007 Recreation Board to get a list of all the volunteers / addresses. He also indicated the dinner will be held at the South Elm Baptist Church. Chairman Lewis stated that he'd like to have all the volunteer names / addresses by no later than December 14 so the invitations can be written and mailed by December 18, giving time for RSVPs to be received so a final count of attendees can be gotten.

Newcomer Guide / Welcome Packet – Chairman Lewis indicated that he would prefer to pass this project on to the 2008 Recreation Board. A vote was taken, with all four (4) votes in favor of Chairman Lewis' suggestion.

Soccer Field Safety – Chairman Lewis mentioned that soccer field safety issues had been brought up and discussed at the November 20 LRP Board meeting. Chairman Lewis stated that the issue needs to be addressed as ‘temporary’ since the soccer fields are temporary. The Town Council has approved another year of the temporary soccer field area so the Town Clerk needs to get the proper county approvals for extension of the temporary soccer field status. Council Liaison Patterson interjected that we can’t begin to put up precautionary measures for every occurrence that anyone can think of and that the town cannot always give in to every whim / whine.

New Business

None

Public Comment

Wendy O’Brien –6409 Charter Oak Drive: Where are all the people? Folks need to show up!
[Discussion took place between Ms. O’Brien and various Recreation Board members regarding lack of audience during Recreation Board meetings.]

Staff Comment

Assistant Town Clerk Robenolt stated that she appreciated the Recreation Board as a team that gets things done. Council Liaison Patterson thanked everyone on the Recreation Board for their efforts and all the work they had done over the past year planning and executing many wonderful town events.

Board Comment

Ms. Bragg stated that it has been a pleasure working with all the members of the Recreation Board. Mr. Culler thanked everyone and commended them for their teamwork on all the events. Town Clerk Schreiber indicated that it has been great watching the members of the Recreation Board as a team that shows up and works. Chairman Lewis thanked the board members for all their work and support.

Adjournment

Chairman Lewis made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Bragg. **4/0; the motion carried** and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Clerk

Date

Chair