



## **Town of Beaufort, NC**

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### **Town of Beaufort Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 6:30 PM Thursday, May 11, 2023 - Train Depot, 614 Broad Street, Beaufort, NC 28516 Monthly Meeting**

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#### **Call to Order**

Members Present: Chair Michael Rave, Vice Chair Johnna Davis, Sheresa Elliot and Doug Williams

Members Absent: Peter Crumley, Barbara Francis-Heckman and Brian O' Haver

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Rave.

#### **Agenda Approval**

Agenda was approved unanimously.

#### **Minutes Approval**

April Minutes were approved unanimously without changes.

1. April 2023 Minutes

#### **Public Comment**

#### **Items for Discussion and Consideration**

1. Community Gardens - Johnna Davis

Johnna Davis made a presentation on Community Gardens. The presentation highlighted best practices for starting a community garden to include starting with a 3-5 person planning committee to discuss the purpose of the garden and who it will serve, the long & short term objectives, select leaders, how to assign plots, charges, structure, rules, etc.

The biggest takeaway is to make sure there is interest in the community for a community garden. Without adequate interest, the garden will not be successful. Another big factor is choosing the correct location.

Davis suggested that her favorite potential locations include the property across from the cemetery on Yaupon although a drawback is that there is not water. A second location to consider is at Louis Randolph Johnson Jr. Park as water and potential storage facilities may be available. Staff mentioned potential property on West Beaufort Road that is currently owned by NCDOT.

Discussion revolved around if the project moves forward to involve the Beaufort Garden Club, Eagle Scouts, involving the community, growing food for local food pantries, composting, educational aspects and more.

It was suggested that maybe the first step should be to conduct a needs assessment and asking the Town if this is a viable project. Staff suggested this information be shared in the updating of the Parks Comp plan.

No action was taken.

### **Staff Report**

Staff gave an update on the following topics:

- \* Arts in Beaufort Mural
- \* Arbor Day / Tree City
- \* County-wide trash clean-up
- \* Comp Plan
- \* Art in the Park
- \* A Possible Fall Event at the park

### **Board Comments**

There were no additional comments.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.