

MINUTES OF THE HARMON FIELD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Chairman Warren Watson called the Harmon Field Board of Supervisors meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Tryon Town Hall, McCown Room.

Board Members Present: Chairman Warren Watson; Vice-Chairman Lynn Cromer; Secretary-Treasurer Rick Covil; and Steve Sloan

Board Members Absent: Miguel Santibanez

Staff Present: Brad Gordon, Park Superintendent; and Meg Rogers, Town Secretary/Cashier

Welcome new member Steve Sloan

Chairman Watson extended a welcome to new member Steve Sloan.

Approve Minutes from August 6, 2024 regular meeting

The Minutes from the August 6, 2024 regular meeting of the Harmon Field Board of Supervisors were reviewed. Covil made a motion to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting on August 6, 2024 as presented. Sloan seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

Approve Financial Report for August 2024

The August 2024 Harmon Field financial report was reviewed. According to the report, Harmon Field had received \$156,918.62 (41.57% of its annual budgeted revenues for Fiscal Year 2024-2025). Total Operating Expenditures were \$43,326.71 (13.45% of annual budgeted expenditures for FY 2024-2025) and Capital Expenditures totaled \$445.38 (0.80% of annual budgeted expenditures for FY 2024-2025). Total Expenditures were \$43,772.09 (11.60% of annual budgeted expenditures for FY 2024-2025).

Covil made a motion to approve the Harmon Field Financial Report for August 2024 as presented. Cromer seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a vote of 4 to 0.

Park Superintendent's Report

Harmon Field Park Superintendent Gordon presented his report.

- Staff fixed the "NO CARS PAST THIS POINT" signs in the field behind the tennis courts and the one at the gravel parking lot at the front entrance.
- Staff had gotten 3 out of 4 horseshow rings sprayed and cleaned up. The 4th ring was sprayed and was waiting for the weeds to die.
- Staff met with sound company for the horseshow facility and spoke to Jamie Dunn about selling the unit she owns that is still in place at Harmon Field.

- Staff ordered two new signs for the track area, one to replace the existing rules sign at the track and another to put on the tennis court side of the track where the asphalt comes by the field house restrooms building.
- Brenden Sproules was hired to assist the Harmon Field staff. Board members asked for update on budget for Harmon Field staff at next meeting.
- Staff were getting a quote for the back deck of the cabin. Gordon reported that the deck was constantly damaged by bad roof drainage from the cabin roof. Concrete patio was being considered to replace the wooden board deck to be for easier maintenance, drainage and longer life. Public Works Director Greg McCool had details of the proposed replacement patio. The new patio would be at ground level from the outside and would have steps down from the cabin rear door to the patio.
- Polk County Sheriff's Department asked to hold an emergency rabies vaccination clinic at the open-air gym on Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 11 am to 1 pm.

➤ **RENTALS**

- Facility rentals were going well with nearly every weekend in August booked and expecting September to be even busier with rentals.
- Fall soccer season arrived and Polk Rec/YMCA started practicing in August and the YMCA came out on August 30, 2024 to paint lines on the soccer fields inside the oval track. YMCA would be coming back in September to paint the lines on the river soccer field. YMCA purchased more paint and Gordon showed them the soccer nets that still needed to be replaced.
- Polk Rec/YMCA baseball had scheduled 4 games. Not many kids signed up for baseball this year and the program would be using Polk Rec Dept fields, when possible, to reduce program costs.
- Manzolina Contract – Watson asked about the status of the concession stand amended rental contract. Gordon reported that Tryon Town Manager Fatland would be contacting Manzolina regarding the new lease contract. Gordon reported that Manzolina's concession stand recent business traffic appeared slow.

➤ **PROJECTS**

- Gordon spoke with Bryson Jones who would be doing all the grading work at Harmon Field and work was on schedule for first of October 2024.
- Gordon met with Charles Dallara and Dallara okayed removing the infield grass in the Dallara Baseball Field as requested by YMCA/Polk Rec. Staff would kill the grass after the last baseball game and Bryson could grade the area when grass was dead. Chairman Watson asked Gordon to get Dallara to put his approval for the grass removal in writing for Harmon Field/Town of Tryon's records.
- Charles Dallara wanted Harmon Field to order new shade covers for both dugouts on the Dallara Field (Field A) and replace the LED recessed lighting in the rock pillars that are burned out. Gordon stated that Dallara would pay for the dugout covers and LED bar lights when billed for these items from the Town of Tryon/Harmon Field. Gordon confirmed that an invoice would be sent to Dallara for the covers and LED bar light replacement bulbs (\$200 each).

Update on Open-Air Gym

- Contractor Derek Champion's crew was at Harmon Field and installed the framing for the gym's screen porch.
- Gordon spoke with Derek Champion on August 22 and Champion told Gordon that the crew would be installing the screen and drop-down ceiling the following week. The crew came back the last week of August and put on the shingle roof and metal edge.
- Gordon spoke with Tom Swanner in Hendersonville regarding stainless steel counters for the new kitchen and Swanner was going to come down to the site. Swanner told Gordon that if the counters were normal sizes, the order could be filled and delivered in about a week.

The Harmon Field Board requested a completion schedule for gym project from Champion. Gordon reported that Champion had been non-responsive to timeline requests. The Board wanted the timeline to assist with planning dedication events. Covil asked for budget status on the gym project to include all revenues and expenditures to date for discussion at the next meeting. The Board also asked for estimated total cost to complete project and details on where the project was now.

Other

- **Event Posting on Social Media** – A female park user named Lynn reported that she saw lots of events coming up at Harmon Field such as Walk Remembrance and Wheels for Whiskers and asked if Harmon Field posted these events on Harmon Field's website/social media/Facebook. Gordon reported that he managed the Harmon Field Facebook page when he had free time, but few posts were done recently because he was very busy with park maintenance/services work. Gordon reported that these events were organized by separate non-profit organizations, not Harmon Field, and the event organizers were responsible for marketing and social media outreach. Many of the events being held at Harmon Field were posted by event organizers on the Polk County Tourism's FirstPeakNC.org event calendar and Facebook social media. When possible, Gordon shared these social media posts to the Harmon Field Facebook page.
- **Wasps at the Gym** – A female park patron, Sam, reported that there were at least 30 wasp nests in the rafters at the open-air gym. Gordon reported that removal of the wasp nests would require a professional exterminator with a bucket truck which would be expensive for Harmon Field.
- **Alcohol Not Permitted Beyond This Point Signs question** – Tryon Arts & Crafts School (TACS) director Will Barclift asked about the new "Alcohol Not Permitted Beyond This Point" signs at the Harmon Field tennis courts. Gordon responded that he just moved the signs that were high on the posts down to eye level so park users could see them to reduce the problem with evening illegal drinking on Harmon Field property.
- **Community Center Building Status** – Status of the deteriorating community center building at Harmon Field was discussed briefly. Grant funding was being sought to replace the roof to stabilize the building. Chairman Watson stated that they were looking for best use of the building space that would comply with Parks

& Recreation Trust Fund restrictions. TACS Director Barclift was encouraged to submit a formal proposal to rent or purchase the building to Tryon Town Manager Fatland if TACS was interested in the building.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 5:30 pm at Tryon Town Hall, McCown Council Meeting Room.

Adjourn

Sloan made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Cromer. Meeting was adjourned at Chairman Watson at 5:55 pm.

Submitted By:



**Rick Covil
Secretary-Treasurer**

Approved:



**Warren Watson
Chairman**