



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2025-2:00 P.M.**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 2, 2025 in the Town Hall Public Assembly. Present were Chair Candace Vick, Vice Chair Mike Pearson, and Members Melanie Champion, Peggy Schiavone, Grace Bannerman, and Ray Edwards. Member Keith Smith emailed that he was out of town and could not attend. Interim Town Manager Christy Ferguson was also in attendance.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Agenda Approval**

*Make a motion to approve the agenda by Member Champion; second Member Bannerman; approved by all.*

**Approval of Minutes**

*Make a motion we approve the minutes by Member Bannerman; second Vice Chair Pearson; approved by all.*

**Programs and Facilities Update**

Interim Town Manager Ferguson reported there was interest in swing dance lessons. She said the Town will send out one more blast and then look to get classes started. Yoga is now operating inside for these cold winter mornings. She continued that the Town's birthday celebration will be Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Moving to facilities, she said the bid opening for the new restroom facility at Block Q is scheduled for January 14, 2024 at 3 p.m. The construction on the new walkway and restroom facility at Avenue E is coming along nicely. She stated there has been significant issues with trying to keep people from walking through the work zone. She reported that the public restroom facility under the bridge will close tomorrow afternoon and be closed for several days based on forecasted low temperatures.

The board asked about the success for holiday programs. Interim Town Manager Ferguson thanked the board for their assistance at the Tree Lighting.

**Pickleball Discussion**

Chair Vick stated that on the field trip last month the PRAB saw some pickleball facilities. She opened it up in case any member of the PRAB had anything to say about the field trip. Member Bannerman said the ones at Lockwood Folly are not regulation size. Chair Vick said she had a

discussion with someone who is the Recreation Superintendent for the City of Raleigh. She said a lot of the decisions the PRAB has to make about layout, height of fence, whether there are dividers between courts, etc. will all be decided once a site has been picked. Raleigh has not built new courts in a while, they have repurposed tennis courts. She said she was advised not to scrimp on the amount put into the nets because, in terms of maintenance, it pays back. Same with the types of concrete that is used. Chair Vick said that she thought the field trip was very beneficial. Vice Chair Pearson said he thought the courts at the big park on the field trip were very nice (Ocean Isle Beach Park).

### **Public Comment**

Ron Bristol- 157 OBE- Asked if the PRAB can outline what the general timeline is to make a decision on court location and number of courts. Interim Town Manager Ferguson said they were visiting town sites today but it would take several months to go through the process.

Brent Shaver- Consider cooperation with the county and putting pickleball courts on the county's 60-70 acres. Property on the island is very expensive.

Maurie Daily- 119 Schooner Drive- In addition to pickleball courts, would like the PRAB to consider one tennis court. Referenced Waterford in Leland. A combo court could allow more players. She liked the comment about spending money up front for a quality surface, mentioned Har-Tru.

Interim Town Manager Ferguson gave a reminder that the February meeting needed to be moved so that she could attend the Manager's Conference. The PRAB will now meet on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. based on the response to the calendar call.

### **Field Trip to Town Properties**

Interim Town Manager Ferguson listed the locations where the PRAB would be going. Planning and Inspection Director Evans and the Planning Department gave feedback at each of the town sites visited. There was consensus by the PRAB to eliminate the 800 block from discussions after the site visit there. The reason for the elimination was costs.

### **Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn (at the 800 block site, 3:03 p.m.) by Vice Chair Pearson; second Member Edwards; approved by all.*