

# Town of Strasburg

## Recreation, Parks, & Trails Committee

Strasburg Town Hall  
174 East King Street

Thursday, November 8, 2018  
7:00 p.m.

### Recreation, Parks, & Trails Committee Members:

Ken Cherrix, Chair  
John Massoud  
Emily Reynolds  
Taralyn Nicholson

Staff Contacts:  
Wyatt Pearson, Town Manager



# Agenda

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## **Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

### **Action Item:**

- **Approval of Minutes: August 16, 2018 meeting**

### **Discussion Items:**

- **Master Plan for the Park**

### **Old or unfinished business**

### **New business**

### **Adjournment**

If you require any type of reasonable accommodation as a result of physical, sensory, or mental disability in order to participate in this meeting, please contact Amy Keller, Town Clerk at 540-465-9197 or amy@strasburgva.com. Three days notice is required.

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL RECREATION, PARKS, & TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2018 AT 7 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE STRASBURG TOWN.**

PRESENT: Council Member Cherrix (Chair) and Council Committee Member Massoud, Nicholson, and Reynolds; Vice Mayor Terndrup

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Manager Pearson, Economic Development & Marketing Manager Bixler, and Clerk of Council Keller.

**Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

**Discussion Items:**

- *Master Park Plan*

**Chairperson Cherrix** said he wanted to try to get an action list of items going so people know we are trying to do things. He would like to meet monthly regarding this topic. When he was campaigning, the main thing he was asked was what the town could do for the kids. He knows we can't build buildings or malls, but we do have acreage that can be used.

**Town Manager Pearson** showed some diagrams from the 2002 Master Park Plan and explained where things were located on the diagram. Much of the land shown is in the floodplain and we do not maintain it completely. Another diagram showed the topography of the park land. **Town Manager Pearson** felt the 2002 plan did not focus on the park as we know it now. He said another problem with the plan is that it showed the baseball fields in the floodplain.

**Council Member Nicholson** said when this plan was done, there was nothing between the boat landing and the high school. They were given a presentation that spoke a lot about greenspace and pocket parks. She explained how the plan was to go into the neighborhoods and there would be different access points.

**Chairperson Cherrix** said a complaint he has heard is that people don't like to go to the park so the multiple accesses would be helpful. He feels it would be good to be able to provide more maintenance so it could be accessed from the other streets. Trail connections were further discussed. It was felt "pedestrian connection" was needed.

**Council Member Massoud** asked what people would want done and **Chairperson Cherrix** said no one would give him an answer. **Town Manager Pearson** said anecdotal conversations are good, but they need to go further. There needs to be meetings with public input; charrettes need to be held.

**Vice Mayor Terndrup** said you can do all the public meetings, but you need to craft something for them to come out to comment on. There are things going on at the park and we need to recognize that and then determine where the gaps are.

**It was noted that public input is needed, at some point.**

**Vice Mayor Terndrup** said after the walking trail was built an Eagle Scout built benches and added mile markers so that if someone needed emergency help, they could pinpoint their location easier.

**Council Member Reynolds** said she has attended a charrette. They gave ideas of what kids might want and asked what they would like and where they would like it. It wasn't intimidating and it was fun.

**Council Member Massoud** said we have a lot of land. Do we need it all? **Chairperson Cherrix** said this is getting him back to the question of whether we need a consultant to tell us what to do or should we do decide what we need and then get the experts when we are ready to build? **Town Manager Pearson** said there is a counter argument to this and it would to have the expert come first.

**Council Member Nicholson** said she previously tried to get passed the idea of having some sort of a spreadsheet which states when maintenance was done on all buildings, etc. We have a good plan, but now things are breaking so we can't really work on new projects. **Chairperson Cherrix** agreed and said they do things like this where he works. **Town Manager Pearson** said at their facilities, there are very specific maintenance plans. He thinks staff knows what needs to be done.

**Council Member Reynolds** asked if a maintenance plan could be done in conjunction with the master plan. She has looked at the executive summary plans for the master plans of parks in Woodstock. **Chairperson Cherrix** thinks as the park expands, we will need to have the maintenance schedule.

**It was felt some form of maintenance schedule needs to be developed.**

**Vice Mayor Terndrup** feels we need to look more town wide. He knows **Mr. Jay Neal** will be asking for the town to go into partnership with Strasburg Express to build the stadium and playing fields. We need a broader scope of the other facilities that private organizations might contribute to. **Chairperson Cherrix** said the parks at Homewood are further down the road than what we are talking about. He thinks the extra facilities would be good.

Money is now in the budget for park maintenance, but there isn't a plan for the use of the money.

**Council Member Nicholson** said the reason for the first master plan was that we wanted to be competitive and eligible for grant monies. She said the plan has pocket parks within the plan that we can build on.

**Chairperson Cherrix** would like to see improved or expanded playing fields.

It was noted that drainage is a major problem in the park. Engineering the park from a maintenance standpoint was discussed.

A discussion followed on the growth of the town and the needs from the growth.

**Vice Mayor Terndrup** discussed different ideas such as bike paths and why people come to Strasburg.

The pool is a major consideration, as well as the bathrooms.

**Chairperson Nicholson** asked if maintenance could be done during the off-season. She also thinks we need to discuss the playground more especially in regards to special needs children.

**All felt a complete pool discussion needs to be had. It was thought goals need to be set before bringing in a consultant. A discussion also needs to be held on parking issues.**

**Council Member Reynolds** thinks we need to focus more on the Town Park proper, but not to ignore the other areas in town.

Being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.