

January 13, 2020

Sharp Road Park Planning Meeting

The Denton Town Council opened a Working Session at 6:30 PM in the Training Room at the Denton Town Office on this date. This special session was held to discuss plans for the development of the Sharp Road Park and to received comments and ideas from the local Athletic Organizations.

In attendance:

Council - Mayor McNinch, Councilmembers Lister, Johnson and Wilson. Councilman Branson was not in attendance.

Staff – Mr. Don Mulrine, Phil Clark, Mark Chandler and Karen Monteith.

Councilwoman Wilson kicked off the meeting by having everyone in attendance introduce themselves.

Representatives from area Athletic Groups were present including:

The Denton Little League, Choptank Athletic Association, Rage Flag Football, Shore Explosion Softball, Caroline County Youth Soccer Association, Caroline Lacrosse Assoc., North Caroline Football, Shores Elite Track & Field and Caroline County Recreation & Parks.

Discussion on Sharp Road Park Planning

Mr. Mulrine provided an overview of the funding the Town has received, what has already been accomplished and what the Town's plans are for the bond funding that has been awarded. Mr. Mulrine showed a preliminary drawing of the park, which reflects the basketball court that has been completed, and a walking path that is well underway. He pointed out the proposed plan includes installing baseball/softball, soccer/lacrosse fields, a 4-lane track, volleyball court, parking and restrooms. A storage building has been purchased. Mr. Mulrine expressed that the design is to provide practice fields.

Mr. Mulrine also announced the Denton Police Department was successful in being awarded a \$25K grant through the GOCCP Community Grant D.A.Y Program to purchase equipment for lacrosse, soccer and volleyball for the park.

Representatives from each Athletic Group provided ideas and suggestions for improvements to the plans and shared their needs.

Discussion also included preliminary cost estimates for making all this happen, maintenance of the fields once they are developed, and possible cost sharing for the maintenance.

CCRP is working on an Online Field Registration Program for several parks in the County and may be able to include Sharp Road Park if the Town decides to go that route.

The Town and CCRP will keep looking for additional grant funding to apply for that may be available to help with the cost to get the park development finished.

As the planning continues, the Council encouraged each organization to continue to share any other ideas that they think of and ways to raise funds to help make this happen.

The Town will send everyone a follow up email and plan to hold another meeting in late April to regroup.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor McNinch adjourned the Working Session at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk-Treasurer