

**Town of Mills River**  
**Regular Meeting of the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Committee**  
**Tuesday, January 25, 2022**

The Mills River Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Committee met Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Commons Room at Mills River Town Hall. The Town of Mills River held the meeting electronically as well as in person. The following committee members were present: John Case, Tammy Ross, Tristan Cowie. Stacy Taylor, Tim Doane, and Ameena Zia attended via Zoom conference calling. Mills River Parks and Recreation Director, Nicole Sweat and Deputy Town Clerk, Patty Brown were present.

The meeting was called to order by Tammy Ross at 7:02 pm.

Tristan Cowie made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Stacy Taylor and it passed by verbal assent.

The Minutes from November 30, 2021 were reviewed by the committee. Tristan Cowie made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Stacy Taylor and it passed by verbal assent.

The floor was open for public comment. None was given. The public could attend by ZOOM. Since it was an electronic meeting, the public has 24 hours for public comment to be made by emailing [info@millsriver.org](mailto:info@millsriver.org).

**Announcements:**

Blood Drive is January 28.

YMCA Mobile Market is February 1. This is where families can get free fresh produce.

Sign up for alerts on the Town's new website, [www.millsriver.org](http://www.millsriver.org)

The open Parks Maintenance Specialist position closes February 4.

February 9 will be public input sessions for the Bike Ped Plan. There will be virtual sessions at 3 pm and at 6 pm.

**Old Business:**

**Picnic Shelter/Restroom Facility**

The project is out to bid. There will be a required pre bid meeting next week. Bids are due in March 1. Ms. Sweat hopes to take bids to Council in early March.

**Riverbank Restoration Project**

The project has been delayed due to weather. Hopefully next week it will begin.

**Banner Farm Road Property-Farmer's Market**

At their November 30 meeting the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Committee charged Tammy Ross to write a letter on their behalf in support of relocating the Mills River Farm Market to the Banner Farm Road property and ask Council to direct Ms. Sweat to apply for a PARTF (Parks and Recreation Trust Fund) grant. The letter was sent to Council and on the agenda for the January 13 Town Council meeting. Council did not call on Ms. Ross to speak, however they did ask the Ag Committee Chair to speak, which he did in favor of the relocation also. Town Council feels there is not enough information to make a decision on applying for the PARTF grant, however they do want to support the Farm Market. Council is unsure what that support entails and wants to discuss further at Visioning.

There was discussion among the Parks Committee regarding feeling like Council is not recognizing the importance of this advisory committee. There is a feeling of Council not seeing the value in this committee. This committee was formed to advise Council on decisions regarding parks, trails, and recreation and try to answer questions that may arise. There was also concern that Council did not appoint anyone to the vacant seat of the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory board even though 5 applications were received and 1 applicant for the position was asked to introduce herself at the last Council meeting.

## **Park Maintenance Position**

The position closes February 4. Interviews will be conducted the following week.

## **New Business:**

### **Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair**

At the first meeting of each year, elections are called for Chair and Vice Chair. John Case made a motion to nominate Tristan Cowie for Chair. No other nominations were received. Tammy Ross seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by verbal assent. Tristan Cowie nominated John Case for Vice Chair. No other nominations were received. Tammy Ross seconded the nomination and it passed unanimously by verbal assent.

### **Proposal from Tennisbloc (Tennis lessons and Camps)**

Ms. Sweat presented a proposal from Tennisbloc to provide tennis camps and lessons in Mills River Park. This would be very similar to our arrangement with Challenger Sport and their summer soccer camp. The Town would be responsible for providing the facility and advertising. Tennisbloc would handle everything else and the Town would receive \$10 from each registration. The sessions would be 10 weeks sessions so we would reevaluate the contract with them every 10 weeks. Chairman Cowie called the motion to direct Ms. Sweat to enter into the agreement with Tennisbloc to provide tennis lesson and camps in Mills River Park. John Case seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by verbal assent.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 22.

John Case made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tristan Cowie seconded that motion and it passed by unanimous verbal assent. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:  
Patty Brown  
Administrative Assistant