

The

TOWN

Kirkman Municipal Building
PO Box 307
4920 Alliance Church Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313



*"Remembering the Past,
While Moving Towards the Future"*

August 2014

SQUARE

Phone: 336-674-3002

Fax: 336-674-0923

Email: Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Website: www.pleasantgarden.net

Town of Pleasant Garden, NC

TOWN OFFICIALS

Carla Strickland.....Mayor
Alan Marshall.....Mayor Pro Tem
Steve Brandt.....Councilmember
Ron Surgeon.....Councilmember
Rick Wallace.....Councilmember

TOWN STAFF

Sandy Carmany....Administrator/Clerk
Kathleen Hennebury...Assistant Clerk

TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday...9:00AM - 5:00PM
(We often close at 1:00PM on Fridays as needed to avoid overtime hours.)

TOWN MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Kirkman Municipal Building/Town Hall located at 4920 Alliance Church Road and are open to the public. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend.

Agendas for all Town Council and board meetings are available by email in advance of the meeting. To receive meeting agendas, send an email to Townclerk@pleasantgarden.net

Town Council

First Tuesday of each month

Zoning Board

Third Monday of each month

Long-Range Planning Board

Third Tuesday of each month

Recreation Board

Fourth Tuesday of each month

All regular meetings begin at 7:00PM.

Special meetings may be called as needed. 48-hours public notice will be given for such meetings.



Citizen Informational Meeting on Possible Town Operation of the Pleasant Garden Community Center Thursday, September 25, 2014 @ 7:00PM Town Hall, 4920 Alliance Church Road

In the June 2014 edition of this newsletter, Mayor Strickland reported on the request from the Board of Directors of the Pleasant Garden Community Center for the town to consider operating the 12.2 acre facility. The fact-finding committee has almost finished its work and is ready to share details, answer questions, and received public input before reporting to the Town Council. The committee's preliminary research has found the following:

- The community center will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in April 2015. The property has a tax value of \$262,000.
- The Board of Directors would donate the land and facilities to the Town of Pleasant Garden. No money would exchange hands.
- The buildings and fields are in usable condition and can be operated "as is" without having to incur major expenses for repairs at this time.
- If upgrades to any one building is needed in the future, that particular building will have to be brought up to current building code standards.
- The community center does not have any outstanding debt.
- If administrative costs are subtracted, the community center currently operates on a nearly break-even basis. Cost-savings would be possible with town staff performing administrative tasks and with maintenance expenses being covered under town contracts.

Everyone is urged to attend the meeting at September 25 and voice your opinions, suggestions and concerns on this issue. We hope to see you there!

Pleasant Garden Pet Day

Saturday, September 27, 2014, 9:00AM – 1:00PM
Rabies vaccines and microchips will be available at the 11th annual Pet Day in the picnic shelter behind Town Hall. One-year vaccines are \$5, 3-year vaccines cost \$10 and microchips are \$26. Vaccinations must be up-to-date to qualify for the 3-year vaccine. Local vendors will offer a variety of pet products. Please bring your furry friends for a visit!



For safety reasons, all pets must be controlled with a leash or be inside a cage.

Town News and Events

Message from the Mayor



The state Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) offers annual matching grants for recreational projects with the State funding 50% of a project and the Town funding the other 50%. For years, the Town had talked about applying for a PARTF grant but it never came to fruition. The Town Council appointed a PARTF Grant Committee to make plans and prepare a grant application. Starting in the fall of 2012, the committee worked toward submitting the grant application to the state by the deadline of January 30, 2014. Roger Bardsley, now retired but previously served as a planner for Guilford County, was a great help in drafting the grant application as a service to our Town free of charge.

Prior to the submission, the Council approved a Recreation Master Plan created by design specialists WK Dickson. The master plan is a culmination of focus group meetings and resident surveys. It includes an 18-hole disk golf course, (without disturbing the natural tree area), a playground for ages 2-5 at Volunteer Park, a playground next to the gazebo at Town Hall, a bocce court, shuffle board court, horseshoe pits and a dog park. The master plan is a key piece of the grant application and was referenced in the grant request paperwork submitted prior to the deadline.

The total project cost was \$464,800 with the PARTF grant providing \$232,400 and the Town \$232,400. However, since we have already received a grant of \$120,000 from the state NCDOT to construct the greenway connector between Town Hall and Volunteer Park, the Town's actual out-of-pocket portion would be approximately \$136,400.

The decision on awarding the PARTF grant is made by the state Parks and Recreation Authority, a 9-member board appointed by the Governor and the General Assembly. Some of the factors considered by the Authority include:

- The total number of points received on the actual application;
- The geographic distribution of projects across the State; (The Authority ensures that the funds are distributed evenly throughout the State)
- The presence or absence of other funding sources;
- The population of the applicant;
- The level of compliance with prior grant agreements;
- The grant amount being requested by the applicant;
- The total amount of PARTF funds available for all grant applications.

Each project is evaluated and scored by a team of state recreation department staff and regional consultants from the Recreation Resources Service.

As a rule, the Authority meets in June to decide on the grant recipients. This year their meeting was postponed until July 11, 2014. On that morning, Councilman Steve Brandt and I travelled to Raleigh to observe the review process and to learn who the recipients were. We were very hopeful. At the beginning of the 5-hour meeting, we learned that \$4.1 million had been allocated by the State to be awarded and that the total amount of application requests amounted to \$17.6 million. We also learned that there were a total of 64 applications from across the entire State. When it was all said and done, 17 requests were granted but Pleasant Garden was not one of them.

However, we are not done yet! The good news is that we also learned that many of the recipients have submitted grant applications several times before successfully obtaining a grant. We are already planning to meet with our regional recreational advisor, Vonda Martin, to revisit our original application, review the applications of the winning recipients and determine what we need to do to resubmit by February 2, 2015.

If you should have any questions about the PARTF Grant or any other Town business, please call Town Hall at 674-3002 and leave a message for me to give you a call.

Mayor Carla Strickland

TALK OF THE TOWN

Progress Update on Town Projects



Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan: The consultants – Jesse Day of the Piedmont Triad Regional Council and Alta Planning and Design, Inc. – have drafted preliminary recommendations and designs based on citizen input received from your survey responses and the public workshop on May 20. Please read the project newsletter included in this mailing for more details. Another public workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23 beginning at 4:30PM in the picnic shelter behind Town Hall to seek feedback on proposed designs for some of the proposed improvements. Free hot dogs and fixins' will be served – come on out and share your ideas!



Greenway Project: The engineering design of the paved asphalt greenway through the woods between Town Hall and the athletic fields is complete and has been submitted to NCDOT for review. Once the plans are approved, the town can proceed with requesting bids for construction and construction oversight services. The greenway should be finished and ready for use by next summer.



Athletic fields restroom/concessions: The new building is almost completed and will be ready for use on opening day of the fall soccer season September 6. The Town Council approved a policy to allow non-profit organizations to sell pre-packaged food and drinks in the concession stand. Please contact Town Hall for a copy of the application and operating requirements if your group is interested in providing this service and earning some cash for your organization.

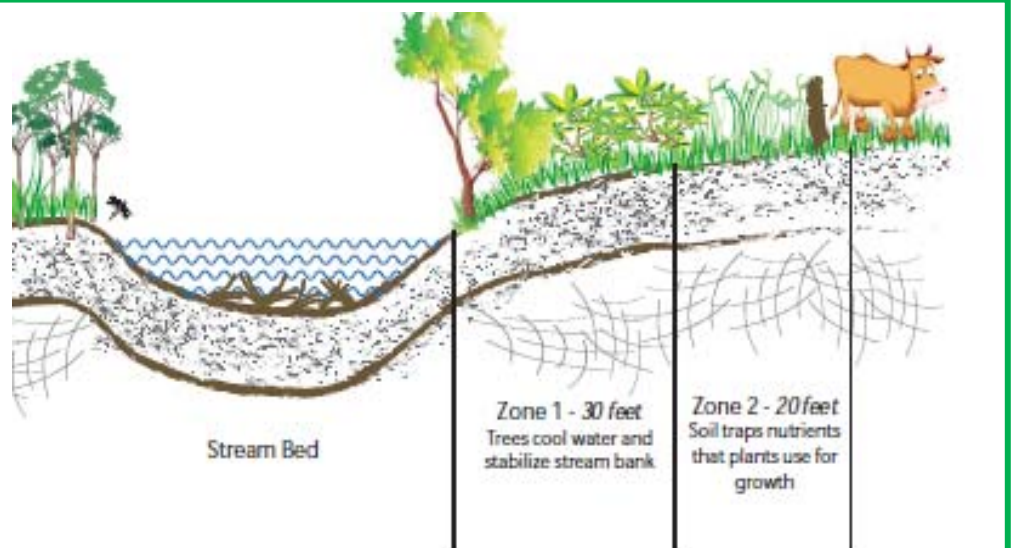
Board and Council Updates

- The Long-Range Planning Board is working on two assignments from the Town Council. One task is to research the costs to bring roads up to state standards that are not currently on the state maintenance system. The other is to review the provisions to allow for the development of senior communities in Pleasant Garden and make a recommendation to the council.
- The Zoning Board spent three months becoming more familiar with the procedures in the Development Ordinance pertaining to the board's duties and responsibilities. There have not been any rezoning cases or other business recently.
- After staging another successful Independence Day celebration enjoyed by all, the Recreation Board is now busy planning for upcoming events which include Pet Day on September 27, Veterans Appreciation Day on November 9, and the Christmas parade on December 7.
- At the August 7 Town Council meeting, councilmembers adopted a policy to allow non-profit organizations to sell pre-packaged food in the concession stand at Volunteer Park, decided to submit an application for the 2015 PARTF grant, authorized applying for a grant to install a generator at Town Hall to keep things running when the power goes off, and approved the purchase of US flags to replace the torn, faded ones flown on Pleasant Garden Road.

Stream Buffer Rules

Please keep the following Jordan Lake watershed restrictions in mind when mowing this summer:

- Leave a 50-foot buffer on both sides of a stream.
- Vegetation must not be disturbed in Zone 1, the first 30 feet from the top of the bank.
- Limited disturbance of vegetation such as pruning is allowed within Zone 2, the additional 20 feet next to Zone 1.





Town of Pleasant Garden
 PO Box 307
 Pleasant Garden, NC 27313

Prsrtd Std
 US Postage
 PAID
 Greensboro, NC
 Permit # 717

TOWN EVENTS

Dates to Remember



Senior Luncheon

August 19, September 16, October 21
 10:00AM – 1:00PM



Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church fellowship hall

This monthly program is free and open to citizens 60 years and older. Please call 674-3002 no later than the Friday before each event to make your reservation.



Farmers' Market

June 7 – September 6, 2014
 Saturdays, 7:00AM – noon
 Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00PM

Picnic shelter behind Town Hall

Bicycle-Pedestrian Plan Public Workshop

Tuesday, September 23, 2014 beginning at 4:30PM

Picnic shelter behind Town Hall

Free food! Come share your ideas about the design of pedestrian and bicycling improvements



Public Meeting on PG Community Center Acquisition

September 25, 2014 @ 7:00PM

Town Hall, 4920 Alliance Church Road
 Short presentation of facts followed by a question and answer opportunity



Pet Day/Rabies Clinic

Saturday, September 27, 2014,
 9:00AM – 1:00PM @Town Hall

Rabies vaccines, vendors, and rescue groups.



Blood Drive/Lions Club Vision Van

Saturday, October 4; 9:00AM-2:00PM
 @TownHall

Give blood; free eye exams and blood pressure checks, flu shots available

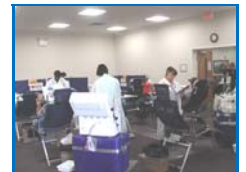


Fall Soccer Season

Saturdays, September 6 – October 18, 2014
 Volunteer Park, 4930 Alliance Church Road

Blood Drive/Health Fair/Vision Van

The town is partnering with the American Red Cross and Pleasant Garden Lions Club to host a blood drive and health fair at Town Hall on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Donors are encouraged to call



Town Hall to make an appointment so you won't have to wait to make your gift of life. Free vision screening will be provided in the NC Lions Club Vision Van parked outside. Pleasant Garden Drugs will administer flu shots; please bring your health insurance information with you if your policy covers the cost of this shot. We are also working with other groups to provide free blood pressure checks, blood sugar testing, and collection of unused/discarded prescription drugs. Please join us on October 4!

Road Construction Beginning

Work has begun on the new interchange of US 421 and Neelley Road. with the moving of power poles and the removal of several houses. Neelley Road will be realigned and



connected to Williams Dairy Road with a bridge. Construction is estimated to take approximately two years. All at-grade access to US 421 between I-85 and Woody Mill Road will be closed when the interchange is complete.

Gas Line Testing Beginning Again

Piedmont Natural Gas informed the Pleasant Garden Fire Department it will resume line testing at its Hunt Road facility on August 20. This maintenance is necessary to make sure there are no leaks or danger of explosion. Residents should not be alarmed by the high flames and load roaring noises that are generated when excess gas is flared. Please be patient while the gas company takes this necessary safety precaution.