

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 20, 2018 6:00 P.M.
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN ROOM**

Present: Mayor J. Alan Peoples Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ingham
Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Chrelle Booker
Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peoples called the work session to order and turned over to the town manager.

Town Manager Ollis stated we have land that we are trying to purchase for the Tryon Cemetery. Commissioner Crowell stated he would like to know where the properties are located. Ollis stated the first one is on Howard Street and can be used for a greenway. The other is basically unusable in today's zoning standards. Commissioner Booker stated it is right below White Oak, the Vernon property. Mayor Peoples asked how big the property is. Ollis stated he will find out the size before the regular meeting. The properties could be used as a park or greenway. Each will total \$3,800 for attorney fees and back taxes.

Armbrust asked about agenda item #10 for the plaza. The representatives are here. Initially the request is for one day in May and an additional date of June 26. June 26 is the date TDDA will hold their Farm to Trade dinner. He asked how this will benefit Harmon Field. Ollis stated that the Fans of Harmon Field will have a lemonade stand and drink stand. Christine Cowles stated the lemonade stand will be it. Fans of Harmon Field made \$1,380 from the progressive dinner. The coffee house is supporting them also. Armbrust asked about Fans of Harmon Field and how as an organization are you not supporting them. Cowles stated that there is no profit for them. They have spent thousands of dollars to hold this event.

Armbrust stated traditionally we have only closed Trade Street specifically for community events. He has tried to see how this is a community event. It is a private opening of your bar. The closure of Trade Street hampers the citizens. Trade Street will be closed for two Saturday's in a row, one for this event and one for the AFRO-LATINA Fest. Ms. Cowles stated they look at it as they have donated hours to the community. It is advantageous to have a personal business to bear the cost to bring tourists to our area. They have went to all businesses except one, because she can't get in touch with them. 99% participation rate. They have vendors coming in from over an hour and forty-five minutes away for the arts and crafts festival. They have distillers coming from over four hours away. They are offering free shuttle service. The fire department and police department have all been notified. She appreciates and understands Crys thoughts. Huckleberry's is not part of tourism and not a member of TDDA. Their mission is to work with TDDA.

Armbrust stated everyone does appreciate your business. It doesn't change the fact that it is a private event.

Ms. Cowles stated Hoop's were concerned about the event. She has talked with Scott about his concerns. Armbrust is glad to hear that she has talked with Scott, the president of TDDA.

Ms. Cowles stated the date is perfect for getting people into Tryon, right before Mother's Day. Armbrust is fine with renting the portion of the plaza. He is not fine with the closing of the thoroughfare and he doesn't feel it is right to allow use of the plaza on June 26. Ms. Cowles stated that we need to pull the June date.

Commissioner Crowell asked how many vendors they have. Ms. Cowles stated she has sixty-four vendors and thirteen distilleries. Most food vendors are self-contained. Café at the Corner is solar powered. The only vendor that will need electricity is the ATM machine. Parker-Binns is launching in Tryon, Bull and Bear peanuts is launching in Tryon.

Commissioner Crowell asked if there was a booth fee. Ms. Cowles stated an event fee of \$15 and that goes toward the advertising. Crowell asked about placing vendors at the Depot Plaza. Ms. Cowles stated the ABC permit states it has to be an extension of premises. They have to see every event detail. There's not enough room to put distilleries and vendors on the Plaza alone.

Ms. Cowles stated Scott requested an alcohol vendor near him, but ABC would not allow it. John G. has offered his parking lot for pedestrians only and they will use it.

Commissioner Ingham stated he would lean toward allowing Trade Street to be closed. Mayor Peoples stated we as a board have not been notified of all of this. Ms. Cowles stated she has talked with the Town Manager and been at the December and January meeting.

Commissioner Booker asked what the road being open has to do with supporting the event. Ms. Cowles stated the food trucks are what started this. They did it the same way that Farm to Trade was setup. The Health Department agreed. The logistics of setting up everything was best this way. This will push people down and up the street.

Armbrust assumes that vendors are being put in the street. Ms. Cowles stated yes and she has talked with Scott about placing vendors behind his building. If they can get the lot full where John G. is that will work. She asked for guidance from the board. She asked Jamie if she has any comments. Jamie had none.

Mayor Peoples asked for the next topic to discuss. Commissioner Crowell stated the dumpster companies are arriving at 4:00 a.m. and asked if we didn't have a noise ordinance. Ollis will have an officer to stop them and call the companies directly to remind them.

Town Clerk Bell asked to add the additional minutes to the agenda if they have had time to read them. All agreed.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adjourn the work session. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk