

Become a Town of Hope Mills Ambassador

CAP



CITIZENS ACADEMY PROGRAM

The Town of Hope Mills will soon be launching another Citizens Academy Program (CAP). The purpose of the program is to improve understanding, communication, and cooperation between local government and those it serves. The sessions will provide a “toolbox” of information to help citizens navigate the complex system of government operations and services. The program is designed to provide an overview of town government, keeping in mind that providing minute detail is impossible within the established two hour constraints. Citizens will be interested in attending for many reasons including an expectation to become better acquainted with the town and its programs and services, learning about the policies and procedures of Town government, meeting new people, or finding ways to volunteer in the community. Participants may be representatives from a cross-section of citizens - New and life-long residents; professionals, homemakers, business owners, retirees, civic group leaders, and high school students - all of whom share an interest in becoming better informed about how a town operates.

Specifically, the goals of the Academy are to provide individuals with a better understanding of the town’s municipal services, the council-manager form of government, and the challenges local governments face. The program will help teach and cultivate new community leaders and to help move those new leaders into important positions within the community. The curriculum enables participants to develop leadership capabilities and build strong relationships, and encourage citizen involvement to effect positive change in the community.

Interested participants will submit an application and be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Class size will be limited to 15 participants. When class capacity has been met, the excess applications are carried over to the next academy. Applications request the standard information, such as name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and employer name and address, but they also ask for the applicant’s birthplace, length of time living in Hope Mills, interests and accomplishments, and expectations from the program.

There is no cost to individuals who attend the sessions, but the Town strongly encourages participants to commit the time to attend each program. The sessions begin on February 11, 2020 and will be held each Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for eight (8) weeks (with the exception of the final session taking place on a Thursday), at various town locations. Site visits will include trips to the public works, police, and fire departments, and parks and recreational areas.

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Course Syllabus

Week One: Tuesday, February 11, 2020

* **Subject:** “The Big Picture” (Orientation Night)

* **Location:** Town Hall

* Manager, Clerk and Staff greet class; course outline is reviewed, general information about the town is provided, and housekeeping rules are discussed. Participants are given time in which to state their name and tell where they are from, why they enrolled, and one memorable bit of information about themselves (e.g., Olympic swimmer, teacher of the year). Introduce Department Heads.

* **Speakers:** Town Manager, Town Clerk and all Department Heads

* **Topics:** Hope Mills History, Council-Manager Form of Government, North Carolina League of Municipalities, Role of Advisory Boards, Functions of Various Departments (including Town Attorney), Open Meetings Law, and Record Keeping.

Week Two: Tuesday, February 18, 2020

* **Subject:** “Planning & Zoning and Inspections”

* **Location:** Town Hall

* **Speakers:** Inspections Director, and Development & Planning Administrator

* **Special Exercise:** Planning Session

* **Topics:** Land Use Plan, Zoning Board duties/responsibilities, building permits, sign ordinance/permit, code enforcement, Board of Adjustment/variances/zoning ordinance amendments, etc.

Week Three: Tuesday, February 25, 2020

* **Subject:** Parks and Recreation

* **Location:** Parks and Recreation Building

* **Speakers:** Parks and Recreation Director and Staff

* **Topics:** Overview of Parks (Hope Mills Lake Park, Municipal Parks & Ballfields) Parks and Recreation Operations (budget, personnel, programs), 4th of July and Ole Mills Day Festivals. Heritage Park Master Plan, Golf Course Master Plan.

Week Four: Tuesday, March 3, 2020

* **Subject:** Finance and Purchasing

* **Location:** Town Hall

* **Speakers:** Finance Officer and Purchasing Agent

* **Topics:** Budget Preparation Calendar, Revenues/Expenses (fund collection and distribution), Debt Service and Financing, Capital Improvement Plan, Grant Funding, Budget Exercise.

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Week Five: Tuesday, March 10, 2020

- * **Subject: Infrastructure - Public Works (Garbage, Streets, Sidewalks, Recycling)**
- * **Location: Public Works Building** (3414 Well Street – Park in lot by basketball courts)
- * **Speakers:** Public Works Director and Assistant Public Works Director
- * **Special Events:** TBA
- * **Topics:** Garbage collection issues (routes, solid waste ordinance, inclement weather, bulky items), leaf/limb pick-up, Powell Bill, list town-owned streets, street paving projects/procedures, NCDOT relations, sidewalk projects

Week Six: Tuesday, March 17, 2020

- * **Subject: Police Department**
- * **Location: Town Hall with tour of Police Department**
- * **Speakers:** Police Chief, Captains, and Patrol Officers
- * **Special Exercise:** TBA
- * **Topics:** Police operations (Drug Prevention & Crime Prevention), Canine Unit.

Week Seven: Tuesday, March 24, 2020

- * **Subject: Stormwater**
- * **Location: Town Hall**
- * **Speakers:** Stormwater Administrator, Stormwater Technician
- * **Special Events:** TBA
- * **Topics:** Overview of Stormwater Program Illicit Discharges,

Week Eight: Thursday, April 2, 2020

- * **Subject: “HELP!!!” Who Should I Call? - Fire Department**
- * **Location:** Fire Department
- * **Speakers:** Fire Chief and Deputy Chief
- * **Special Events:** Fire Equipment Exhibits (including vehicles)
- * **Topics:** 911- How It Works, Development/Recruitment, Fire operations, Special Operations.

Graduation: Monday April 6, 2020 - Town Board Meeting

- * **Location: Town Hall –2nd Monthly Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

APPLICATION (add additional pages if necessary)

Civics 101 – Hope Mills Citizens Academy

February – April 2020 Class Session

The Town of Hope Mills' Citizens Academy Program (CAP) is a unique opportunity for citizens to learn about Hope Mills Municipal Government in order to foster a better understanding and working relationship between the two. The Citizens Academy requires a time commitment on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for eight (8) weeks. Week 8 occurs on a Thursday. Participants will be selected in a first-come, first-served basis. The class shall be limited to 15 participants.

(Please print or type)

Full Name: Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Business Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Employer Name & Address _____

Birth Place _____ Years Living in Hope Mills _____

Personal History - Please tell us about yourself, i.e. interest, accomplishments, community involvement, etc.

Are you a member (or past member) of any Town Advisory Board? ___ No ___ Yes. If "yes", which board(s)? _____

Years of Service _____

Please list any civic, professional, business, religious, social, or other organizations in which you are a member. If new to Hope Mills, you may include activities in your prior location.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Years as Member</u>	<u>Position Held</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Briefly discuss what you hope to learn as a participant in the Citizens Academy Program and how you anticipate using the information:

Are you planning to attend all sessions? Yes No If no, please explain:

Do you have any dietary allergies? Yes No If yes, please list:

Please return to: Jane Starling, Town Clerk
Town of Hope Mills
5770 Rockfish Road
Hope Mills, NC 28348
Phone: (910) 426-4113
Jstarling@townofhopemills.com

Signature (Electronic or Written)

Date