



**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
AGENDA
October 20, 2022**

**George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center
1300 Courthouse Road
Activity Room**

Call to Order	7:00 pm
Silent Roll Call	7:00 pm
Approval of Minutes	7:00 pm
• July 21, 2022	
Public Comments (3 minutes each)	7:05 pm
New Business	7:10 pm
• Lease Property at Duff Green Park (Brion Southall)	
• Pickleball Courts at Pratt and Curtis Parks	
Unfinished Business	7:30 pm
Liaison Reports	7:35 pm
• Planning Commission Liaison	
• School Board Liaison	
Commission Member Comments	7:40 pm
Director's Report	7:50 pm
Adjournment	8:00 pm

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, July 21, 2022

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, July 21, 2022, at the George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Jay Rucker.

SILENT ROLL CALL

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent Reported</u>	<u>Absent Not Reported</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Vincent Applewhite			A	Brion Southall	
David Carpenter	P			Judy Sokolowski	
Eric Futrell	P				
Christopher (CW) Reed	P				
Jay Rucker	P				
<i>Martin Martinez, PC</i>	<i>P</i>				
<i>Alyssa Halstead, SB</i>		<i>A</i>			
Voting members in bold					

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes from the June meeting were unanimously approved, as amended, with the correction of C. W. Reed's last name under "Trail Improvements".

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Facility Scheduling
Discussion ensued between Commission and Brion Southall in reference to the County's Facility Use Policy, which was provided to members. The Commission asked what they could do to help share this information with the public. They asked if the Department's website could be updated to be able to find facilities based on amenities; export reservation calendar from CivicRec to the website; auto-export and refresh calendar on website; obtain a copy of the signed Joint Use Agreement with the School Board.

After discussion, the Commission asked "Facility Scheduling" be removed from the agenda, as it has been completed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez)

- No meeting yet in July; next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 7/27/22
- PRCF is doing a great job, thanks!
- School Board Liaison (Alyssa Halstead)
 - None; member absent

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- *C. W. Reed:* Stafford Diamonds is planning to come to the next Board of Supervisors' meeting; lots of good things going on; trail improvements made at Duff Green and Curtis Parks; great job and thanks, PRCF
- *Eric Futrell:* Thanks for PRCF's hard work; hello to Mike Morris

STAFF REPORTS

- No questions

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (*Brion Southall*)

- Hosted 3000+ people at the Heritage Festival this year; great event; fireworks display lasted 18 minutes; however, the equipment failed prior to the grand finale, which had to be postponed until much later; we are working with the vendor to provide some other accommodation
- We began collecting \$25 parking fee/car for Historic Port of Falmouth on 7/22/22 (for non-Stafford and non-City of Fredericksburg residents only)
- Met with Sheriff regarding towing inside/outside park property; great support
- Looking at charging parking fee at Aquia Landing; tentatively scheduled to go before the Board in August
- Fall field allocations; everyone accommodated, including Colonial Forge High School's requests
- Staff is working on improving trails and benches
- Weak boards on the overlook at Duff Green Park were replaced

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

:jls

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING NOTES
Thursday, September 15, 2022

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, September 15, 2022, at The George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Jay Rucker. *A quorum was not present.*

SILENT ROLL CALL

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent Reported</u>	<u>Absent Not Reported</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests</u>
Vincent Applewhite			A	Brion Southall	Mark Ellis
David Carpenter		A		Judy Sokolowski	Greg Baker
Eric Futrell	P				Maki Lanham
Christopher (CW) Reed	P				Donna Oliver
Jay Rucker	P				
<i>Martin Martinez, PC</i>	P				
<i>Alyssa Halstead, SB</i>	P				
Voting members in bold					

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes from the July 2022 meeting were not approved due to lack of a quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Ellis, Mr. Baker, Ms. Lanham, and Ms. Oliver each spoke on behalf of Stafford Pickleball players and requested additional pickleball courts be built in Stafford.

NEW BUSINESS

- None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez)
No activity since the last P&R Commission meeting.
- School Board Liaison (Alyssa Halstead)
Just completed the schools' CIP; on board with an indoor activity center with gymnastics, aquatics, pickleball facilities, large facility for recreation; from a school perspective, get parents involved; important for School Board and PRCF/Commission to talk and work together

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- C.W. Reed: In looking through the meeting packet and staff reports, lots of good work going on in the County and within the department; great work—thank you!
- Eric Futrell: Good comments from the public; enjoyed hearing from pickleball players; heard a lot about pickleball in the last few months. Is there some way to gauge interest in the County? Stafford seems to be behind other counties in areas of pickleball and sand volleyball; we will continue to look and explore; thanks everyone for your comments. The basketball courts, goals, and poles at Pratt look new and look great! Son's Eagle Scout project is to refurbish the 18 benches along the Belmont-Ferry Farm (BFF) Trail; work entails removing the wood, cleaning, staining, and adding new hardware; four benches have been completed, 14 to go.
- Jay Rucker: Thanked members of the public for coming and speaking; recalled the Commission discussing Pickleball a few years ago; will add to next month's meeting agenda.

STAFF REPORTS

- No questions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (*Brion Southall*)

- Thanked the public for their comments and support for our department; Pickleball and adding courts have been on the CIP for several years
- We are revamping our website to make it easier to search for amenities
- The refurbished benches on the BFF Trail look great!
- Finished pilot program at Historic Port of Falmouth collecting fees from non-Stafford, non-City of Fredericksburg residents; collected from 7/22/22-9/5/22; approximately 50 staff from different PRCF divisions helped; we are compiling the numbers and working on a report to present to the Board of Supervisors soon.
- An organization, "Revere" acquired 11 acres previously owned by the University of Mary Washington (rowing club) at Duff Green Park and would like to lease additional acreage at Duff Green Park's farm area; looking to raise funds to build a building to study the river; this item will be placed on the October meeting agenda under New Business.
- The SBL World Series went extremely well; games were played at Duff Green, Smith Lake, and Chichester Parks; the event organizers want to come back to Stafford; heads of the SBL World Series asked why we used Nat's Stadium, because Stafford fields looked great!

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

:jls

September 2022 Staff Reports

For October 20, 2022, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Community Recreation, 55+ Active Adults, & Aquatics

- Hosted Stafford Steppers at 5 different locations in Stafford
- Offered Kayaking at Crow's Nest, Abel Lake, & Lake Mooney
- Conducted Archery 101 and Open Range classes
- Drool in the Pool @ Woodlands (9/10) and Mark Lenzi Pool (9/11)
- Pumpkin Derby Workshop – 9/17
- Happy Trails at Germanna Red & Blue Loop – 9/19
- Did a Slow Stitch Vintage Rag Doll class for 55+ Active Adults

Upcoming

- Stafford Steppers continuing performances across the county
- Stargazing – 10/7
- Owling – 10/14
- CPR Class – 10/19
- Multi-Cultural Day – 10/22
- Bats! Bats! Bats! Special Program – 10/29
- Fall Dried, Fruit Garland/Wreath Making Class for teens and adults – 10/15 and 10/22

Gymnastics

- 4 birthday parties (average of 14 guests per party)
- 12 Tot Open Gym sessions; 233 participants for the month
- Sessions 1 and 2 of gymnastics school age, preschool, and Ninja Classes
- Competitive Team Head Coach attended USA Gymnastics State Meeting and Clinic in VA Beach 9/24-9/25

Upcoming

- 10 birthday parties are scheduled in October
- Costume Party on 10/20 for Preschool Program
- Competitive Team Women's and Men's monthly practice
- Boys' Team coaches to attend Virginia Men's Gymnastics State Meeting and Clinic
- Session 3 of recreational classes

Parks

- Brooks Park District
 - Lined soccer fields at Pratt and Melchers
 - Lined football and field hockey fields at Drew Middle School
 - Prepared and setup for the employee picnic at Pratt
 - Removed split rail fencing at entrance road to Pratt
- Chichester Park District
 - Mowed Stafford Middle softball field
 - Mowed SGRC and trails at Musselman Park
 - Ordered replacement swings and chains for playground
 - Installed replacement sewage pump

- Curtis Park District
 - Groomed sand in volleyball area
 - Removed down trees from disc golf course in preparation for tournament on 10/1
 - Repainted grills at shelters
 - Assembled new life guard chairs for pool
 - Added benches to the disc golf course and cleaned up some debris
 - Prepped for Fall Fest



Curtis Park Disc Golf Course Area

- Duff Park District
 - Set up soccer fields
 - RRJ detainees cleaned the county gateways on I-95 and assisted with cutting HPOF, Civil War Park, and Aquia Landing
- Embrey Mill Park District
 - Groomed Autumn Ridge baseball fields
 - Re-lined football field at Rodney Thompson
 - Cleaned sidewalk on Mine Rd
 - Repaired irrigation line
 - Swept turf fields
 - Replaced broken baby changing stations
 - Deep cleaned restrooms
- Smith Lake/Willowmere Park Districts
 - Painted foul poles on Field 3 at Willowmere
 - Painted chains to emergency access roads yellow
 - Prepped cross country running path for meet
 - Replaced light fixture in men's restroom & on side of the office

Sports and Facilities

- NFL Flag Football, Sideline Cheer, and Youth Volleyball games began 9/17



Youth Volleyball Team



Sideline Cheer Team

Stafford Seeking Nominations for Florence D. Helms Award

Stafford County is pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the 2023 Florence D. Helms Award. This award was originally established in 1975 in memory of Florence D. Helms, who made significant contributions to the youth of Stafford County. It is the highest annual award that is given to an individual and/or organization that has made significant lifetime volunteer contributions to the youth of Stafford County.

“We are very proud of our outstanding selection of youth activities, many of which are supported by volunteers following in the footsteps of Florence Helms,” said Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Crystal Vanuch, Rock Hill District. “We could not offer the diverse array of activities that we do without the assistance of our volunteers. Their service is invaluable.”

Helms, a registered nurse, passed away unexpectedly in 1975 of cancer but left her mark on the youth of Stafford County. As an active member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, she was instrumental in establishing a volunteer program of medical examinations by doctors for sports programs in the area. Helms was also active in the early years of growth and development of the Stafford County Department of Parks and Recreation. This award has been given to individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions in the areas of recreation, education, guidance, health, or other fields in which the service contributed to the character development of the youth of Stafford County.

In keeping with the spirit of the Florence Helms Award, two annual awards may be given:

1. An award in recognition of an individual for lifetime volunteer dedication and contribution toward the development of youth of Stafford County
2. An award in recognition of a group/organization that has provided support and made outstanding lifetime volunteer contributions toward the development of youth of Stafford County

The criteria for selection of the winner include: years of volunteer service (20 years minimum), degree of dedication, fruits of accomplishments, and degree of interest and concern for the youth with whom the candidate/organization has been associated.

To be eligible for consideration, completed nomination forms must be returned to the Stafford County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities office no later than January 31, 2023. Please visit www.staffordparks.com or call 540-658-4872 to obtain a nomination packet. Nominations may be submitted digitally at www.staffordcountyva.gov/florencehelmsaward.

Past winners include:

- SERVE Youth and Community Service

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| • Wendy Harris | Art Education, Youth Service |
| • Rose M. Crocco | Youth Literacy and Community Service |
| • Evelyn Dittman | Youth and Community Service |
| • American Legion Post 290 | Youth Athletic Programs |
| • Daniel Visone | Youth Sports and Community Service |
| • Carol F. Lysher | Youth and Community Service |
| • Captain Steve Cary and Tim Doyle | Intellectually/Physically Disadvantaged |
| Youth | |
| • Rappahannock Big Brothers Big Sisters | Guidance and Mentoring of Youth |
| • Walter S. Osburg | Youth Sports |
| • Michael H. Robinson | Scouts and Youth Sports |