

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 19, 2023

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, January 19, 2023, at The George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Brion Southall.

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	Martin Martinez
David Carpenter	P			Judy Sokolowski	Ethan Coffin
Eric Futrell	P				Wallace Coffin
Michael Parkyn	P				
Christopher (CW) Reed	P				
Jay Rucker	P				
<i>Vacant, PC</i>					
<i>Susan Randall, SB</i>	<i>P</i>				
Voting members in bold					

ORGANIZATION

- Chairman Election
Michael Parkyn was unanimously elected as Chair
- Vice Chairman Election
Jay Rucker was unanimously elected as Vice Chair
- Review/Revise Bylaws
There were no changes to the Bylaws.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes from the November 17, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Martin Martinez, from the Planning Commission, said he appreciations the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, and their work is very important. He stated, "Folks will miss parks when lands are gone due to development."

NEW BUSINESS

Parking Fees at Historic Port of Falmouth (Brion Southall)

Brion Southall reviewed the information contained in the packet, "Parking Fees Historic Port of Falmouth". At the conclusion of the presentation, C.W. motioned, and Jay Rucker seconded, to

recommend the following:

- Charge fees weekends and holidays (for non-residents of Stafford and City of Fredericksburg) from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day at Historic Port of Falmouth
- Defer charging fees at Aquia Landing
- Request that funds collected be used for safety and river education (life jackets, dangers, litter, water quality, etc.), along with park site improvements.

Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (vacant)
None
- School Board Liaison (Susan Randall)
 - Suggested Parks, Recreation, Facilities & Tourism (PRFT) contact school career counsellors in the fall for job ads and ask them to run ad on TV announcements at schools. Also, in the fall, contact Learn & Serve classes, which require kids to perform community work.
 - A public meeting will be held 1/24/23 regarding the schools' proposed budget; they need multiple new schools, as the student population has grown by 6000 since 2008; behind in building schools; completed design for high schools; taking public input for elementary schools; heavy CIP/Budget; 20 trailers at elementary schools; requests input from PRFT

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- Eric Futrell thanked Martin Martinez for coming to the meeting when he didn't have to; thanked him for his service on the Commission, and wished him a Happy New Year.
- Jay Rucker congratulated Michael Parkyn and Susan Randall for their new Chairman elections and said he is looking forward to the year to come.
- David Carpenter thanked Michael Parkyn for stepping up and is looking forward to the new year.
- C. W. Reed thanked PRFT staff for all their work and especially the gymnastics staff; he went to Knoxville for his daughter's gymnastics competition (she got 3rd place banner overall); staff did a great job; he complemented all on the tree lighting event.
- Michael Parkyn thanked all for coming.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Brion Southall)

- A public meeting was held on 1/17/23 for public comments on Musselman Park; second meeting will be held in March; P&R Commission to review information at Apr/May meeting
- A public meeting began tonight at 6PM upstairs in Room 275 for public comments on the Carl Lewis Community Center design; attendance is good
- Timeline for dog park at Mountain View: construction/design out to bid May; bids due end of September; notice to proceed in October

- We need middle-school-sized gyms in schools; the new Moncure Elementary School has a middle-school-sized-gym, also request the gym have a restroom nearby with exterior door access; all has been mentioned to Jason Towery

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

:jls

Minutes approved 2/16/23.