

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 16, 2023

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, March 16, 2023, at The George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Michael Parkyn.

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	P			Brion Southall	Mark Ellis
David Carpenter		A		Judy Sokolowski	
Eric Futrell	P				
Michael Parkyn	P				
Christopher (CW) Reed	P				
Jay Rucker		A			
<i>Martin Martinez, PC</i>	<i>P</i>				
<i>Susan Randall, SB</i>	<i>P</i>				
Voting members in bold					

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The minutes from the February 16, 2023, meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mark Ellis spoke on behalf of the Stafford/Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania Pickleball Club (Club) about the shortage of pickleball courts in Stafford. He referred to the recent article in The Free Lance-Star and thanked Brion Southall for summarizing the Club's support for additional pickleball courts. He stated pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the US; 10% of the population is playing. Stafford County painted lines on unusable outdoor courts, and indoor courts are only available during the day. Since additional courts are needed now, Mr. Ellis asked for pickleball courts be made part of the FY2024 budget process by contacting Board members to request they move up the Pratt Park court resurfacing to FY24. He also requested 6-12 lighted courts be built at Musselman Park.

NEW BUSINESS

- None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez)
 - Planning Commission met on 3/8/23 and reviewed the Comprehensive Plan for Stafford County Public Schools
 - A joint Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting to discuss data centers will be held at Courthouse Community Center on 3/29/23 at 6pm
- School Board Liaison (Susan Randall)
 - Meeting on 3/21/23 at 5:15pm at the Government Center with the BOS to discuss the FY2024 budget; trying to ensure raises are adequate for school staff
 - Plans for new schools moving forward
 - Trailers will be used until schools are built

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- C.W. Reed
 - Parks and recreation staff are doing a great job and keeping up with things
 - Even with Dominion Energy doing work near the Gymnastics Center, staff is keeping kids safe and people are enjoying the gym
 - Spent time at Lake Mooney recently and really enjoyed it

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Brion Southall)

- Daytime vehicle break-ins at parks and recreation sites have increased, with a break-in last week at the Gymnastics Center; criminals are very illusive; caught on camera: car was on the parking lot with no license on the front of the car, plastic bag covered rear plate; people in the car wore masks and watched people go into the gym; once patrons entered the gym, the car pulled up next to the patron's car, broke a window, robbed the car, and left
- Flag Football has 735 registrants
- Job Fair to be held 3/18/23; we are behind in hiring for summer pool operations and camps
- Next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be held at Courthouse Community Center for the Commission to present the Red Fines Sportsmanship Awards

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

:jls

Minutes approved 4/20/23