

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

Thursday, June 15, 2023

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, June 15, 2023, at The George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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			A	Brion Southall	
David Carpenter	P			Judy Sokolowski	
Eric Futrell	P				
Michael Parkyn	P				
Christopher (CW) Reed	P				
Jay Rucker	P				
<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 May meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Musselman Park Master Plan (Brion Southall)
The plan was presented to the Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC) with the addition of basketball courts as requested by the Commission. The CEDC recommended graying out the area and titling all court areas as “future athletic courts”, as this site will be developed in phases.

Mr. Southall will bring proffer information (current and future proffers) to the next Commission meeting. Discussion will include identifying the development phases and budget plan.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez)
 - Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit (CUP) for a solar farm next to Musselman Park

- Planning Commission is working on language pertaining to data centers for the Board of Supervisors' review; after the Board reviews and sends back to the Planning Commission, a public hearing will be scheduled
- School Board Liaison (Susan Randall)
 - Will pass a budget soon; awaiting state to finalize budgets
 - Plans for high school 6 and elementary school 18 completed
 - Independent entrance for gym included in future elementary schools
 - School bus turned on its side recently, with the driver at fault; requested ordinance from the Board of Supervisors for cameras to be installed on buses

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- Martin Martinez
 - Acknowledged the Parks & Recreation Commission's purpose is to build parks and facilities for future generations, and they are on a good path
- Eric Futrell
 - Asked if Parks & Recreation has Eagle Scout service projects, as these projects help the county and the scout. Mr. Southall said the department has been and is still very active in providing Eagle Scout projects and recommended he contact Chris Stevens about them.
 - Serves on Rappahannock Swim League's (RSL) Board of Directors; RSL has 25 teams this year; JRSSC will host finals all day on 7/22, along with Curtis Park, Dixon Park, and YMCAs in Spotsylvania and King George
 - Requested adding "Supervisor Advocacy Discussion" to the next meeting agenda
- C.W. Reed
 - Said daughter participated in the recent state gymnastics meet, and coaches did a fantastic job, which speaks volumes about the pride and care they give gymnasts
 - Park staff is doing tremendous things
 - Dare Day was a great event, and the park was in excellent shape
- David Carpenter
 - Thanks for the sign at Duff Park
 - Staff is doing a great job
 - Mr. Futrell's points very valid; how do we move ahead, as there are so many needs in the County: roads, schools, planning; talk more with Board Members to keep issues before them
- Jay Rucker
 - Visited Duff Green Park recently and saw new sign, which looked really good
 - Concerned with the speed of getting things done; sixth year on the Commission; asked for a dog park in north Stafford at second meeting; it has taken six years to get it
- Michael Parkyn
 - Desires to be effective; asked Mr. Southall what can we do for you to get things done? Asked Mr. Southall to think about it and let the Commission know

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Brion Southall)

- As for funding park construction, the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is moving; however,

we are unable to complete a park all at once, as there is not enough funding to build out the entire plan. Construction will begin on/around 7/1/23 for a new inclusive playground at Willowmere Park

- Public meeting for the Carl Lewis Building scheduled for 7/6/23 from 6-8 PM in Conference Room ABC at the Government Center
- Mountain View dog park meeting held today; discussed phosphorus runoff/stormwater
- Stafford Baseball League (SBL) will run the World Series for youth 14 years of age; Stafford High School gave SBL permission to use a baseball field on Sat/Sun due to two additional teams playing this year; next year, SBL will submit a five-year contract to run the World Series for youth 11 years of age, which would allow us to convert back to our 60' fields at Chichester and Smith Lake Parks
- SBL had a change in leadership; Sunshine Baseball in Fredericksburg needed a field; past leadership would not give up any fields; however, new leadership said they would not deny any child and opened up a field they were using at Brooks Park for the Sunshine group; I appreciate SBL for their leadership
- Preparing for our 7/4 fireworks show at Pratt Park, where we anticipate 3500+ people; our Tourism division commissioned a trolley to run from the City of Fredericksburg to the Patowomeck Tribal Museum on 7/4; this will be the first huge public opening for the museum
- Jason Towery from Stafford County Public Schools (SCPS) invited me to architect meetings to discuss basketball courts at schools
- We need rain
- Thank you for all your kind words about staff; every single one of their hearts are in it

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

:jls

Minutes approved 8/17/23.