

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

Thursday, October 19, 2023

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, October 19, 2023, at The George L. Gordon, Jr., Government Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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	Barry Hill
David Carpenter	P			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 September meeting were unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Barry Hill, representing Stafford Soccer, requested two grass fields at Embrey Mill Park be converted to synthetic turf.

NEW BUSINESS

- Grass Fields at Embrey Mill Park (*This item added by Chair at request of C. W. Reed*)
Mr. Reed called the Commission's attention to three emails received by citizens requesting grass fields at Embrey Mill Park be converted to synthetic turf. After discussion, C. W. Reed motioned, and Eric Futrell seconded, to recommend the grass fields at Embrey Mill Park be converted to synthetic turf, and request the Board of Supervisors (Board) to seek funding for these conversions. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Budget Calendar (Brion Southall)
The next item on the Budget Calendar is 12/12/23 for CIP and Proffers review with input from the Board. Brion Southall will be on hand to answer questions.
- Supervisor Advocacy Discussion (Michael Parkyn)
The Commission agreed to begin advocating for the Parks and Recreation Department and budget requests in January.

- Project Adam/Gwyneth's Gift (Eric Futrell)
Tabled until next meeting.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez)
 - The Board and Planning Commission held a joint meeting to discuss data centers
 - Recommended ordinance be amended include data centers
 - Data centers will bring proffers; consider how parks & recreation could benefit
 - 10/25: application review for data centers
 - Very thankful kids can be on fields in freedom and safety
- School Board Liaison (Susan Randall)
 - Field trip to Hampton City to view academies/learning centers
 - Groundbreaking for high school 6 next Wednesday (10/25/23)
 - Elementary school 18 will be built next to high school 6
 - Elementary school 19 will be built on the backside of Brooke Point High School
 - Hartwood, Rising Star, & Drew need refurbishments; Rising Star will move to Drew; Drew to move to Melcher's

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- C. W. Reed
 - Apologized for missing last meeting; out of town
 - Thanked gymnastics staff for caring for daughter who broke her arm doing gymnastics
 - Problems with pickup/drop-offs at the gymnastics center have been alleviated by opening additional entrances
 - People are asking about a new boat ramp at Lake Mooney; current ramp is dry, and people are driving to the water to drop in
- David Carpenter
 - Thanked Brion Southall and Judy Sokolowski for all they do and for preparing very well for Commission meetings
 - Impressed with so many programs for ages 55+
- Eric Futrell
 - Thanked Brion Southall, Judy Sokolowski, Martin Martinez, and Susan Randall for all they do for the County and Commission and for safe options for children
 - Encouraged all to stay vigilant; we do a good job coming together for parks & recreation
 - Stay apprised of what's going on and advocate to the Board
- Vincent Applewhite
 - Thanked staff for coming, providing details, and explaining how the money/lack of money works for CIP/3R requests
 - The more we can do to help/advocate for parks & recreation, the better

- Thanked Barry Hill for coming
- Michael Parkyn
 - Parks & recreation actually bring people together!

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Brion Southall)

- Reviewed handouts
 - 3R/CIP for FY18-24
 - FY25 3R requests, which include converting two grass fields at Embrey Mill Park to synthetic turf
 - FY25 CIP requests
- Adult volunteer program: after graduating, students (up to 21 years of age) volunteer with us and help in various areas: cleaning, painting, mail room, parks, etc.
- Musselman Park Master Plan goes to the Board 11/14/23
- Regarding data centers, proffers usually start coming in three-four years after construction begins

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.

:jls

Minutes approved 11/16/23.