



**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
March 21, 2024
Courthouse Community Center
29 Stafford Avenue**

Refreshments (Room C) 6:30 pm

Florence D. Helms & Red Fines Sportsmanship Award Presentations (Gym) 7:00 pm

COMMISSION MEETING

Call to Order (Room B) 7:30 pm

Silent Roll Call 7:30 pm

Approval of Minutes 7:31 pm

- February 15, 2024

Public Comments (3 minutes each) 7:35 pm

Unfinished Business 7:45 pm

New Business 7:50 pm

- Smoke-free Parks (*VA Dept. of Health Youth-10 min limit*)
- Autumn Ridge Tennis Courts (*Brion Southall*)

Unfinished Business 8:10 pm

Liaison Reports 8:10 pm

- Planning Commission Liaison
- School Board Liaison

Commission Member Comments 8:15 pm

Director's Report 8:20 pm

Adjournment 8:30 pm

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 15, 2024

The Stafford County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, February 15, 2024, 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			A	Brion Southall	Krystal Dehaba
Matthew Cavalier	P			Judy Sokolowski	
Eric Futrell	P				
Christopher (CW) Reed		A			
Jay Rucker	P				
James Tully	P				
<i>Martin Martinez, PC</i>		<i>A</i>			
<i>Dr. Elizabeth Warner, SB</i>			<i>A</i>		
Voting members in bold					

ORGANIZATION

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Ms. Krystal Dehaba, Hartwood District, spoke about the negative impact a proposed data center would pose to Musselman Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Musselman Park
Brion Southall reported this project is moving along in the Capital Improvement Program and

was discussed in a budget work session; total build should occur in FY2028.

- Hampton Oaks Dog Park (Brion Southall)
The Board of Supervisors' (BOS) member of this district is working with the associated School Board member to create a small dog park in this subdivision. A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted for one acre for a dog park and maintenance of the area. Mr. Parkyn encouraged a discussion of this project to include the Sheriff's Office, schools, and Hampton Oaks Homeowners' Association.
- Florence Helms Nominations
The Commission reviewed the nominations and selected the award winner by ballot. The Award will be made at the Florence Helms and Red Fines Sportsmanship Awards Ceremony to be held on March 21, 2024, at Courthouse Community Center, at 7pm.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Planning Commission Liaison (Martin Martinez) - None
- School Board Liaison (Dr. Elizabeth Warner) - None

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

- Michael Parkyn
Resigning from Commission; this is his last meeting; time serving on the Commission very rewarding; also served on the School Board Advisory Committee; encouraged the Commission to have a vigorous relationship with correlated BOS member
- James Tully
Served on the Historic Commission for nine years and serves on the Transportation Commission; desires to make a difference
- Matthew Cavalier
Enjoyed advantages of parks and recreation in childhood; has a child who is also enjoying parks and recreation; has seen changes over the years and sees improvements to be made; will push for realistic amenities
- Eric Futrell
Welcomed new members; thanked Mr. Parkyn for his service and wished him the best; expressed appreciation for the Christmas baskets

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Brion Southall)

- Plans for the Mountain View Dog park is in planning for review
- The Brooks Park skateboard park project is out to bid; bids due 2/26/24
- The Annual Make-A-Wish Gymnastics meet was held Jan 26-28 at Fredericksburg Expo Center, with 900+ gymnasts; Stafford Parents Gymnastics Association (SPGA) runs this meet as a fundraiser, raising \$10,000 last year
- Another gymnastics meet will be held in May at Fredericksburg Expo Center

- The Stafford Christmas Tree Lighting was held on 12/8/23 with fireworks, crowd, kids; estimated 1800-2200 people came and enjoyed the event
- As of January, Youth Basketball had 719 kids registered
- A job offer was made for a Therapeutic Recreation position
- Annual St. Patty's Day Soccer Tournament will be held for two weekends this year, using all synthetic fields in the County, include school fields
- Tourism is working on Virginia's 250th birthday; the BOS approved an ordinance for a committee to be established for this purpose; the committee is working with the Kenmore/Ferry Farm Foundation

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

:jls



What is YST?

- Y Street is the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth's award-winning volunteer statewide youth initiative.
- Launched in 2004 to work on 2 major issues: **TOBACCO & OBESITY**
- Partnered with **90+** High Schools across Virginia to train and engage youth in policy change.



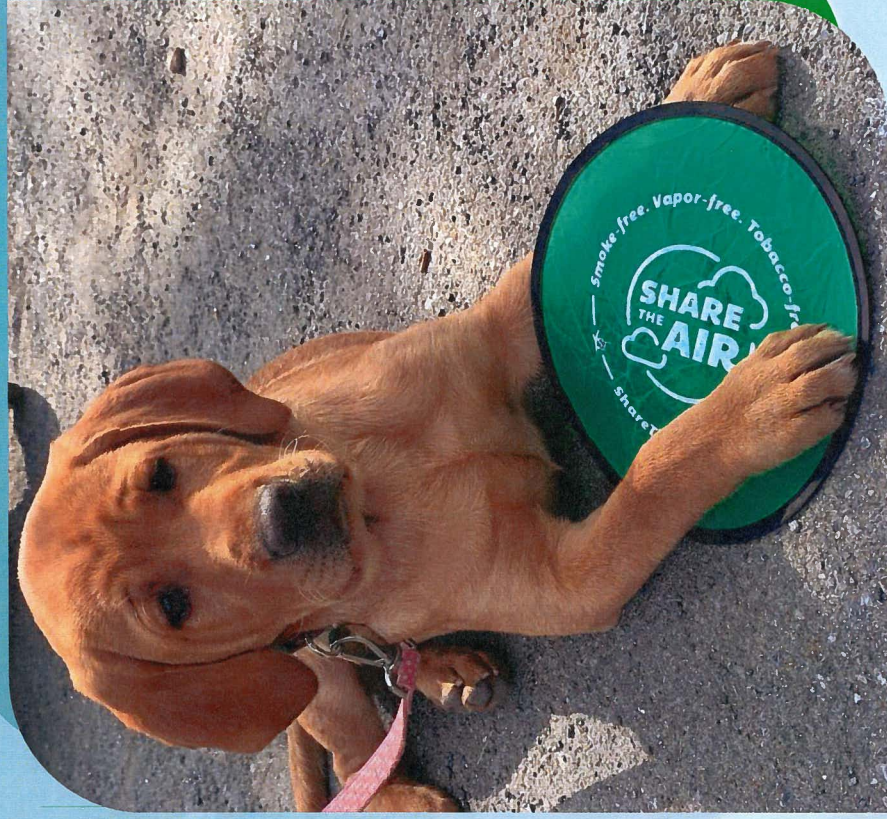


Campaign Goal: Create 100% Tobacco-Free and E-Cigarette-Free Outdoor Public Spaces

Become a Champion by adopting a tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free outdoor policy.

WHY GO TOBACCO-FREE?

- Tobacco and e-cigarette use in outdoor places **creates litter** that is not only unsightly but also poses **significant risks** to humans, pets, and the environment.
- Parklands and recreation centers serve as **pillars of health** for families and should reflect that to promote **healthy communities**.
- Recent events **banning e-cigarette products** from store shelves highlight risks associated with usage.





95% Virginians in and around Stafford County believe that cigarettes, empty e-cigarette, and vaping cartridges are litter, and are toxic to humans and animals.



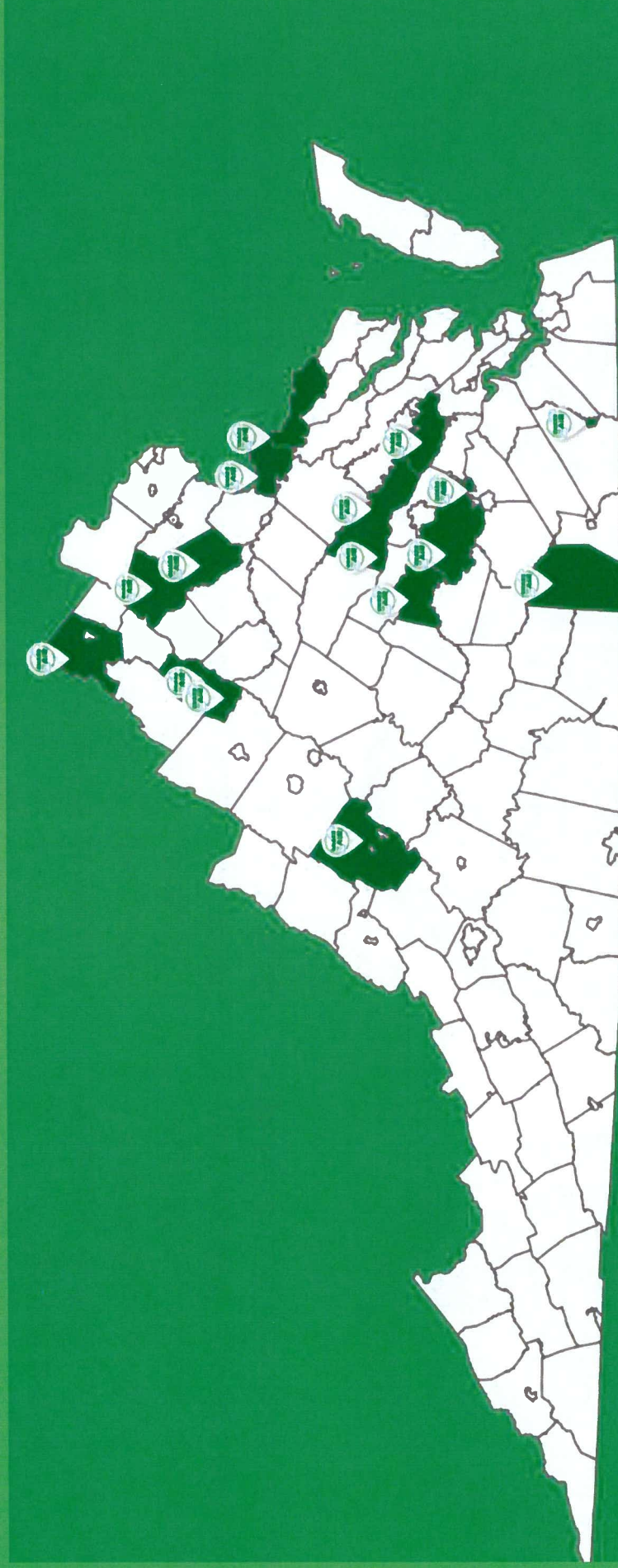
91% of Virginians in and around Stafford County believe tobacco litter negatively impacts their outdoor experience.



97% of Virginians in and around the Stafford County area are in favor of tobacco-free outdoor policies.



Check Out Share The Air's Partners!!



sharetheairva.com

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND PARTNER RESPONSE

This program being very low cost and low barrier was the perfect way to start initiatives in our town that help improve the quality of life for our citizens. Not just for our residents, but our visitors as well.

Emmy Houck, Parks & Recreation Coordinator, Ashland



**Congratulations
ASHLAND PARKS &
RECREATION for going
smoke-free, vapor-free,
and tobacco-free.**



When I or my staff have been at parks or playgrounds, and fields, parents have pointed out the signs and they've been very happy that we are advertising the fact that you shouldn't be smoking or vaping near sports fields or playgrounds.

Chris Clarke, Director of Parks and Recreation, King George County



**Congratulations
KING GEORGE COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION for going
smoke-free, vapor-free,
and tobacco-free.**



FREE Tobacco-Free Signage

ALUMINUM SIGNS: BEST FOR OUTDOOR AREAS

- Sign Poles/Lampposts
- Fences
- Athletic Fields or Playgrounds
- Parking Lots
- Outside of Buildings

DECALS: BEST FOR ENTRIES

- Windows
- Glass Doors



Aluminum Signs
12" x 18"



Decals
8" x 8"

FREE Resources

Toolkit Includes:

- Tobacco-Free and E-Cigarette-Free **Model Policy**
- Comprehensive **Policy Checklist**
- Implementation & **Communication Resources**
- **And more!**



QUESTIONS?



February 2024 Staff Report
For March 21, 2024, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Community Recreation, 55+ Active Adults, & Aquatics

Activities held

- 55+ Tuesday Movie: Barbie
- 55+ Social Ballroom Dance
- Polymer Clay: Valentines Gifts

Upcoming

- 3/17 – St. Paddy's Day Luncheon
- 3/18 – Open Art Studio
- 3/24 – Beginner Ballet/Tap and Pilates

Gymnastics

- 12 birthday parties and 12 Tot Open Gym Sessions were held
- The Girls Competitive Team competed in Chantilly, VA
- The Boys Competitive Team competed in Mechanicsville and Ashland, VA
- 2/7 – Summer camp registration began
- 2/15 – Hearts and Handstands Preschool Party



The developmental teams and their coaches posing before their showcase event

Upcoming

- 3/11-3/15 – School Age Open Gym and Ninja Free Play during Spring Break
- 3/17 – Stafford Royals team tryouts
- Girls Competitive Team will compete in Raleigh, NC, and Hampton, VA
- Boys Competitive Team will compete in Lynchburg, VA

Parks

- Brooks Park District
 - Repaired sod on soccer field @ Pratt due to vandalism
 - Removed layer of silt from HPOF parking lot and removed debris from flooding
 - Cleared trail going towards Chatham
 - Contractor delivered new portable toilets
 - Repainted parking lines and installed new pickleball nets @ Pratt



Coin Presentation to Walter Smith and Joseph Hanks for their help onsite of an accident

- Curtis Park District
 - Repaired stairs on the Disc Golf course
 - Extended the Red tee pads per concerns @ Disc Golf course (#6, 10, 16-18 completed)
 - Started prep for pool summer season: drained pool, replaced toilet parts, made building repairs, and had old pump station removed
 - Performed minor repairs to the playground
 - Repaired dock @ Lake Mooney
 - Re-striped Curtis parking lots
 - Continued to insulate Willowmere shop
- Duff Park District
 - Painted restrooms @ Duff Park
 - Moved fence post @ Aquia Landing
 - Cleared the road and created a new walking path to playground @ Aquia Landing
 - Repaired septic tank cover @ Civil War Park
 - Removed unwanted signs from Little Falls
- Embrey Mill Park District
 - Hosted St. Patty's Day Tournaments on weekends 2/17-2/25
 - Had new player benches assembled for Embrey fields
 - Made repairs to toilets for fields 1-4 restrooms
 - Removed graffiti from parking lot
- Smith Lake Park District
 - Rebuilt dugouts @ Smith Lake
 - Painted restrooms @ Patawomeck
 - Started lining soccer fields
 - Repaired fence @ Patawomeck after damage from fallen trees
 - Installed new dog stations @ Government Island and Patawomeck
 - Put up new signs @ Smith Lake
- Willowmere Park District
 - Cleared a large fallen tree by shop
 - Ensured porta johns were delivered to all county sites

- Reconfigured soccer fields @ Garrisonville Elementary
- Aerated baseball fields @ Willowmere Park
- Spread mulch in runoff pond for parking lot

Sports and Facilities

- Sports in session: Youth Basketball League, Hot Shots Basketball League, Open Gym Basketball and Pickleball, Discover Pickleball and Pickleball 2.0
- Three post-grad students practiced job skills by packaging new employee welcome baskets for PRFT. They also cleaned tables and chairs @ CCC

