

***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

Approved 3/21/24.