

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
ADVANCE AGENDA
MEETING TO BE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018
ROSENWALD COMMUNITY CENTER, PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE**

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2018

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

VISITORS

PRESENT:

Robert Kuykendall, At Large
Elizabeth McInnis, Ward D
Donna Ownby, At Large

VISITORS:

None

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Dwayne Jones, Sherrie English

Mr. Jones opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. He asked if all had a chance to review the minutes from February 22, 2018 and if there were questions or comments. No response from the group. He then asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Motion accepted as written by Mr. Kuykendall, 2nd. Ms. Ownby. None were opposed.

Mr. Jones proceeded to review Parks & Recreation recent activities, upcoming events, and project updates:

- **Snow Removal:** Even though it’s spring, our crews have been busy removing snow. In addition to City parks, crews take care of some parking lots and sidewalks in the City. They come in early and stay late as needed.
- **Horticulture – Planting Flowering Hanging Baskets** has begun.
- **Parks Maintenance:** We recently replaced all benches around the playground. Previous benches were 16 years old and made of plastic coated metal. The manufacturer held a large sale and we were able to stockpile last season. Modifications were made so that new benches fit on the old legs.
- **Waynesboro Youth Baseball Softball (WYBS) and SOCA:** The season has begun. Currently, we have soccer practicing on various park fields (Basic Park & downtown) and are refraining from using Ridgeview Park fields to protect from damage (wet).
- **Hiring Seasonal Staff:** We are in need of approximately 40 part time seasonal staff members (about 30 for the pool and 10 for grounds maintenance). This year we are struggling to find applicants. We currently have a radio ad and an ad at Zeus theatre. With moderate to low pay, we are having difficulty filling these positions. Please share with those that you may come in contact with to spread the word.
- **Park to Park ½ Marathon coming up on April 28th:** This year will be our 10th anniversary of hosting this event. We just received our anniversary medal (Dwayne passed around the medal for members to see). The medal was designed with the oak trees at Ridgeview Park in mind (runners finish under those trees) along with the resiliency of the runners as they complete the ½ marathon. Registration is strong at present.
- **Kid’s Mud Run Coming on June 9th:** This event continues to grow. You may have seen the drone video of last year’s event on Facebook. We had almost 500 children registered last year which requires many volunteers. But, this is a great event in a safe environment.
- **Get Fit Program:** We have 76 employees signed up out of 300+ employees. This is a reward based program that encourages active physical fitness.
- **Shamrock Expo** took place this past weekend - which is a large race located in VA Beach. We have a new booth and this is an excellent marketing tool for upcoming races. Approximately 20,000 runners visit over the course of a weekend. We were especially promoting our new race – Totally 80s 8K in August.
- **Easter Egg Event – March 31st:** This event will occur at Ridgeview Park at 10:00 am where several hundred kids will attend. We’ve been fortunate this year to have the Waynesboro Lions Club help stuff hundreds of eggs, volunteer the day of the event, and by donating funds toward this project.
- **Cherry Blossom Bus Trip to DC** on Saturday, April 14th is almost full.
- **Rosenwald Community Center Block Party** coming up on Saturday, May 12th. We’ve received many volunteers, to date, and are still recruiting.
- **Shenandoah Valley Plant Symposium** occurred on March 16th and was at full capacity with 245 guests. It was a perfect day with a great group of speakers. We’ve received many positive comments. People come from all over to attend this event with many staying overnight. We may have to end day-of registrations next year to avoid overcrowding.
- **Pet Pawlooza** coming on May 5th. Marvelous Mutts returning this year for 3 shows which were a big hit last year.
- **Paddling Film Festival** will occur on May 9th at Basic City Brewery. We have 30+ registered so far and are very excited about this new event.
- **Summer Concert Series** all booked and ready to go all ahead of schedule.
- **Appalachian Trail (AT) Campground** up and running. We have a new check-in system with a free ride and camp pass that PD can request to see. Hopefully this will help with some inappropriate camp use.
- **New Park Shelter Signs** coming soon replacing old signage with reservation information and will match other signage in the City. Credit cards are accepted. Online registrations receive a \$5.00 discount.

- **Rosenwald Community Center – 1st floor renovation** – rooms 6 & 7 – replacing floor and ceilings as they are in bad shape. Asbestos work started on March 19th. Waiting on HVAC bids for heating cooling that wing of the building. Hope to be back to normal by end of June.
- **Greenway Phase 3** – Loth Springs to Tree Streets: Received the go ahead from VDOT. Going out to bid next week.
- **Sunset Park Update:** Applied for Recreational Access Grant – should be on April docket of Commonwealth Transportation Board meeting which will take place in mid-April. VDOT project number has been assigned. Hoping that funds will come through for safe access road.
- **FY19 Budget Process** almost complete. City Manager presenting budget to Council on 4/2/18.

Mr. Jones completed his review and asked if members had any questions.

Ms. Ownby inquired about the “fake” coyotes that were placed to deter geese. Mr. Jones explained that two were stolen and one is located in our shop. Mr. Jones feels that they may have helped some but these deterrents need to be moved around periodically for greater effect.

Ms. Ownby inquired about the status of the Greenway – Phase 2B. Mr. Jones stated that we are waiting for VDOT to release funding. We should know by May or June 2018.

Mr. Kuykendall inquired about the completion date for the Greenway Phase 3. Mr. Jones stated that hopefully by fall 2018 or early 2019 at the latest and opening spring of 2019 - providing there are no complications or issues.

Discussions continued regarding geese control options, Japanese Knotweed re-appearing along the remedial banks and the use of pesticides, the Mud Run that took place this past February, ballfield at Basic Park, status of road going through Coyner Springs Park, and the Riverfest event.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie English

DWAYNE JONES

Special Project Updates:

STEPHEN BLACK

Horticulturist:

- General landscape maintenance at all city buildings, annual beds, and park beds including weeding, spraying, trimming, and mulching.
 - We've been cutting back and cleaning up perennial beds.
 - The Woodland Shelter at Ridgeview Park has been mulched
- Continued to respond to citizens' requests for tree maintenance and work with public works and tree care companies to complete required tree maintenance.
- Our hanging baskets for downtown have been planted and are in the greenhouse at Milmont Gardens.
- We have removed the turf blankets from the soccer fields.
- We have removed the plastic and tags from all of the trees and shrubs in the new landscaping along Main Street and by the bridge.
- The Williams Brothers Tree and Lawn Service has cleaned up and mulched the new landscape along Main Street and by the bridge.
- New trees have been planted in Constitution Park along the Greenway.
- We have been preparing for our Arbor Day celebration and hosted second grade classes from Berkeley Glenn Elementary School. We planted a tree with the kids and they participated in other tree related activities.
- All the back flow preventers for our irrigation systems have been inspected.
- I have revised the mowing contract for the medians around the city. Jordan's Lawn Care will continue mowing for the upcoming year.
- I have met with the Instructional Manager, for Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center, and one of her students. The student will be working with us this summer for unpaid on-the-job horticulture training.

Plans for the upcoming Month

- Continue with general landscape maintenance tasks (weeding, pruning, cutting back, cleaning up and mulching.)
- Continue handling citizens' tree care requests (tree evaluations, price quote requests, etc.)
- Clean out and replant our annual display beds.
- Hang baskets downtown before Mother's Day.
- Get all irrigation systems operational.

JOHN GOSLIN

Park Maintenance:

- All park restrooms are open now.
- We dealt with a few hard freezes that caused some plumbing issues.
- We've been hiring seasonal mow crew staff. It seems like it will be hard to get enough workers again this year.
- We will start the pool the week of the 16th-20th.
- The asbestos abatement at the Rosenwald Center is complete and the remodeling of rooms 6, 7 and the exercise room is proceeding.

- We've started doing weekend trash runs through the parks.
- Due to a leak in an upstairs steam line we had to do an emergency asbestos abatement in the Rosenwald Center.

BEN LANCASTER

Athletic/Aquatic Coordinator:

Athletics:

- Clean up from Park to Park ½ marathon and make notes for the 2018 event
- Planning for the Summer Extravaganza 10k & 5k Race/Walk – July 14
- Continue to monitor the Coed Volleyball season
- Plan for the Park Piranhas Swim team – starts June 4
- Continue to work with adult and youth tennis programming for summer classes
- Assist Waynesboro Youth Baseball/Softball League for the 2018 season
- Work with SOCA for their spring season
- Plan Youth Strength and Conditioning classes
- Promote the Fox Disc Golf Course
- Continue to work with Waynesboro Quarterback Club
- Assist with the Kid's Mud Run planning – June 9
- Plan for the 80s 8k – August 18
- Assist with the Tour de Valley cycling event planning – September 1

Aquatics:

- Plan training sessions for entire staff
- Monitor cleaning of the Pool
- Pool opens May 26 for Memorial Day weekend.

AMANDA REEVE

Event Coordinator:

- Park to Park ½ Marathon – April 28
 - It has been a busy month of the final push for promotions, volunteers, course prep, etc. We are excited to celebrate 10 years of the Park to Park.
- Kids Mud Run – June 9
 - Registration is going strong. The event has received a lot of interest on social media, as well, through a Facebook event page.
 - Work with local organizations and volunteer groups to secure volunteers.
 - Flyers are prepped for distribution. It's nearing time to deliver flyers to schools before the end of the school year.
 - We are in the planning phase of obstacles.
- Get Fit Program

- 2018 Get Fit is going well with about 60 participants. With the spring weather arriving, we're hoping to gain more participants.
- This year we have reintroduced bonus points. In April participants can earn points for visiting a National Park and sending in a selfie of themselves there!
- Social Running Club
 - Pacin' is in its 4th season. We continue to draw new interest and participation. The club runs from mid-March until mid-November.
- Summer Extravaganza Race – July 14
 - Early stages of preparation
 - Registration has opened, continue to work on promotions
 - Creating poster for advertising
 - Work with local businesses and organizations to plan volunteers and sponsors
- Practicum Group
 - Waynesboro Parks and Recreation just completed its second semester working with graduate students at the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences to complete a practicum experience. This has been a very successful partnership and one we look forward to continuing.

SUSAN ROBERTS

Rosenwald/Special Events:

- Egg Hunt - Saturday, March 31: This event was a success thanks to the co-sponsorship from the Waynesboro Lions Club, many volunteer 'egg hidiers', and gorgeous weather! Based on the number of eggs that were hidden at the park, it is likely that eggs will still be found for weeks to come.
- Parent's Night Out continues to offer parents a chance for some down time, and to give their children an evening of fun activities with new friends. Next PNO is Friday, April 27.
- 49 participants went on the Cherry Blossom / National Zoo trip on Saturday, April 14. Though Washington was very crowded, it was a sunny day, the blooms were beautiful, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and make the most of their time there. The bus was very "talkie" on the way there, and after a busy day, quiet on the return home...except for some occasional snoring.
- Family Fiesta performers are all booked and ready to go for Monday nights in June. This year features a ventriloquist, a magician, a juggler, and the Wildlife Center. More information to follow.
- Rosenwald Community Block Party is scheduled for Saturday, May 12. Again, we are fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteer 'planners' and also a partnership with OOH for this event. Folks have been busy rounding up donations, gathering volunteers for the day of, arranging for entertainment, and helping with getting the word out. A true 'community' project...
- The new teen room at Rosenwald is starting to shape up. The renovations have begun and we are collaborating with the Health Dept. and OOH on some programs to be offered once it's open. The Health Dept. has also been very helpful in providing furnishings for the room. They will be using grant funding to provide several new sofas, love sets, coffee tables, charging tables, a big TV, and a white board.

STEPHANIE SELTZER

Special Events Coordinator:

Special Events

- Petpawlooza (May 5)
 - Marvelous Mutts will be performing at the event. Shows at 10:15, 11:45, and 1:15.
 - Pet caricatures will again be available for a donation which will benefit SVASC.
 - Bernese Mountain Dog Club will be participating with short demos throughout the day.
 - Zeus ad will be running two weeks prior to the event.
- Paddling Film Festival (Wed, May 9)
 - Tickets are being sold for \$5 online and at Rockfish Gap Outfitters for cash. 46 tickets have been sold so far. The goal is 100 tickets
 - WNRN is doing ticket giveaways which will get some free ads for the event onto the radio.
 - Rockfish Gap Outfitters (RGO) and Blue Ridge Bucha have donated product for door prizes. Rivanna River Co has also pledged a door prize.
 - RGO, Rivanna River Co. Coastal Canoeist and a local paddling club will be setting up tables at the event.
 - Water Trail Trip is being held the weekend after the event. We will give away two spots. The trip will be led by Dave Hennel.
- XtremeFest (June 10)
 - Vendor applications are coming in for the event.
 - Frisbee Guy and King BMX will be doing shows during the event.
- Summer Music Series (Groovin'- Thursdays in June; Rockn'- Thursdays in July)
 - Food trucks participating will be Thrill of the Grill, Delicias Marina, Sooner BBQ, and Eats on the Streets
 - Sound Impression will be doing sound.
 - The lineup will be Groovin': Righteous Friendz, Bryan Elijah Smith, Judy Chops, and Hard Swimmin' Fish and for Rock N: Gabby Haze, Chamomile & Whiskey, Standing Room Only, Bootsie Daniels
 - Logistics/power for the new Groovin' location are being hashed out with the sound person this week.
 - Meeting with the tent company about supplying 'stage' area for bands. The alternative is to purchase a 20x20 shelter.
- Summer Extravaganza (July 14)
 - Nothing new to report
- Tree Workshop (September 14)
 - Arbormaster has committed to participating in the 2018 event.
- Kite Day (September 29)
 - Going to the Blue Ridge Kite Festival in Roanoke on April 21 to see how this event is run and pick up some new ideas for our event.

Publications

- Information for the City Wide Newsletter for the summer edition (July, Aug, Sept) is being gathered.
- The April newsletter went out on March 30 with an open rate of 25% and a click rate of 16%. Trips received 52% of the clicks.

Other

- DDW has secured 3 restaurants to participate in this year's Sip & Saunter on August 28th. Parks and Rec will be selling tickets for this event and doing publicity.
- Paddle the park- rentals will be taking place each weekend on both Saturday and Sunday
- Waynesboro Water Trail Trips will happen every other week during June and July with an early trip planned in May prior to the pool opening. The trips will be staggered around events.