

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2019**

**PRESENT:**

Sam Hostetter, Council Representative  
Robert Kuykendall, Chair, At Large  
Vicky Ferreira, Co-Chair, Ward B  
Donna Ownby, At Large

**VISITORS:**

Nancy Tyree, City of Waynesboro, Office on Youth  
Sally Goodquist, Virginia Department of Health

**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF:** Dwayne Jones, Sherrie English

Mr. Kuykendall opened the meeting at 6:00 PM and asked the members if they were able to review meeting minutes from 8/22/19. He then requested a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Ferreira proposed a motion to accept the minutes as written. Second motion was made by Ms. Ownby. All were in favor – none opposed.

Mr. Jones turned the meeting over to Ms. Tyree and Ms. Goodquist for a report on the recent cooperative **No Smoking Campaign:**

- Ms. Tyree stated that there will be an information table at Coyner Springs Park on September 28, 2019 at the upcoming Kite Day event. Students from the Youth Coalition will be present with information on the dangers of tobacco smoking, vaping, and e-cigarettes. There will be free handouts available to the public on the dangers of smoking. There will also be laminated posters at the table for public comments that can be written directly on the poster to express viewpoints. At this time, we are unable to stop smoking from occurring in public due to Virginia laws. However, we plan to have signage available, to place at events and other areas where children are present, thanking the public for not smoking to discourage smoking. Ms. Tyree stated that she is excited for Office on Youth, the Department of Health, and Parks & Recreation to partner together on this campaign. She also encouraged all interested commission members to be present at the table. Ms. Tyree then introduced Ms. Goodquist.
- Ms. Goodquist handed out packets of materials to commission members for review (see attached). She stated that she will be presenting an overview of the materials to the commission members this evening. Ms. Goodquist stated that she works with the tobacco control program in the NW Virginia region and is one of 5 regional coordinators in the state. Primarily she advises and provides support. However, the overall goal is to reduce exposure to second-hand smoke, help smokers stop smoking, and prevent people from starting to smoke. Ms. Goodquist highlighted some of the statistics from the information packet to the members. She presented overviews on: Virginia adult tobacco survey, tobacco consumption in parks, secondhand smoking dangers, information on third-hand smoke, as well as a pamphlet on how to stop smoking.
- Mr. Jones thanked Ms. Tyree and Ms. Goodquist for tonight's presentation and asked the group if there were any questions. There were no questions at this time. Mr. Jones stated that a similar campaign was done several years ago and he's excited about the partnership between these groups in an effort to reduce the smoking in public areas. He stated that he would love to have the commission members onboard in support of this program.

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

- **Park Maintenance:** Staff recently added modifications by reinforcing the bracing structure under the railroad along the Greenway, which was in need of additional support. The guys did an excellent job. Canopy has been taken down from greenway and stored for the season.
- **War Memorial Pool:** A 2-inch waterline solenoid went bad which has since been repaired. We were fortunate to have this occur during an off season. The pool will remain running through the end of October for SMAC use and then will be shut down for the season.
- **Horticulture Update:** Horticulture Assistant position previously open due to staff resignation. We did receive a few qualified applicants and conducted some interviews but just could not get acceptance to the

salary offer. We have decided to wait until spring and reopen and advertise the position, which is a fulltime position with benefits.

- **Ridgeview Park – Baseball Field No. 3:** We will be converting this field to a turf area that can be used by soccer, lacrosse, and more. This is the field located closest to the pool house. The youth baseball program does not use this as it's a heavy clay field that does not drain well. Plus, North Park has a lighted field that works best for them. We hope to have this conversion completed by spring. However, it will take time due to the hard clay conditions.
- **Race Updates:** The Fall Foliage Race is coming up on October 12<sup>th</sup>, which is the final race in the Run the Valley race series. So far, we have about 300 registrants. We will be crowning our Run the Valley champion on this day. The awards will be presented at around 10:00 – 10:30 am. We're already planning our 2020 race season. The Mud Run will take place on Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, and the Park to Park ½ Marathon is scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot of exciting new things coming!
- **Virginia Recreation and Park Society (VRPS) Award:** We're excited to report that our teen room renovation won the award for the best renovation – brick/mortar. We're very excited about this award.
- **Coyner Springs Park Kite Fly:** This annual event is coming up this Saturday, 9/28, from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. The weather is looking like we'll have some wind for the kites, which is always welcomed for this event. There will be professional kite demonstrations, games, apple slinging contests, wind chime making, Papa John's Pizza, Lucky Duck kettle corn, hay rides, and more. Most everything is free of charge.
- **Plant Symposium:** The Plant Symposium is scheduled for Friday, 3/20/20. We have all speakers in place except for one. This event will take place at the Best Western in Waynesboro.
- **Waynesboro Tree Workshop:** We hosted this event with over 200 folks in attendance from all over the state. Many great topics were shared and we received many positive comments.
- **South River Preserve (Constitution Park):** The landscape architecture and planning firm, Anhold Associates, has been selected for this project. This group is a team of folks that include engineers, scientists, and a bird specialist. We're just getting started and are in the scoping phase. We hope to do a press release in a month or so. We also want to get festival groups involved such as fly fishing, and others. This should all kick off this winter with focus group meetings during January – March 2020. We're super excited about this signature downtown project.
- **Greenway – Phase 4 (from North Park to Basic Park):** We've completed application with the Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) fund from VDOT. We submitted the pre-application and passed and are now at the full application stage, which is due approximately 10/1/19. We should receive results in early spring and plan to start this project fall of 2020. This should be a relatively inexpensive project and only involves one property owner, Allied Ready Mix.
- **Basic Park:** We've applied for NRDA funding that was received by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. This grant funding is small with a \$100,000.00 maximum. With the changes planned for the soccer complex, the current kayak access point will be tough to access. Along with the kayak access point change, we would like to add some handicap accessible fishing piers, which would be a great amenity. We believe this fits the criteria to receive the grant funding and should know by Christmas if approved.
- **Fall Program Tab:** (Mr. Jones passed out copies to each member.) This is our most recent program tab that went out to schools in Waynesboro. It includes events and programs occurring from fall to early spring including races, Christmas Parade, and more.
- **Blue Ridge Tunnel Update:** (Mr. Jones passed out tunnel information cards to the members.) Foundation is embarking on a couple of different things. One is an email campaign on becoming a founding supporter. Currently in the final phases to have the tunnel opened to the public, hopefully by spring of 2020, which could benefit eastern Waynesboro. Also, P. Buckley Moss will be launching a new drawing and donating a portion of the proceeds to the Crozet Tunnel Foundation.
- **Greenway – Phase 3 (YMCA through Tree Streets):** Thanks to all commission members for the perfect attendance at the last Council meeting. Council has approved the red route for this project. Since this route has shifted from a traditional greenway to more of a streetscapes project, this project will transition over to Public Parks. We will be involved as the project enters the park and connects to the existing greenway. The engineering firm will develop scope of services to define what 14<sup>th</sup> Street will look like. Again, thanks to all commission members for all of the time and effort put into this project. Will keep you updated as the project moves forward.
- **Greenway – Phase 2B (from Shiloh Church to North Park):** Just to remind the members of the history of this project, the City was able to obtain one private property located behind the church, but not the other

two properties. This created complications and delays resulting in funding rescission. Because of the rescission, no construction can take place until July 2020. We are currently in a holding pattern between now and July of 2020. Best case scenario, we come out of rescission and have right of way, hand our final documents over to VDOT preparing for construction, VDOT would make decision. Further complicating things is the fact that the last and final piece of mercury remediation project within the City is the section located at North Park (Mr. Jones passed out 6-page document titled North Park BMAs – Locations and Proposed Access Roads – see attached.) Because we are in rescission and cannot construct, it behooves the City to let remediation team construct this section of access roads, through the park, so that when we can construct, we'll only have to pave/landscape. (Mr. Jones reviewed attached 6-page document with the members – page by page). More updates will follow as this process moves forward. Presentation will be made to Council in a couple of weeks.

**Questions/Discussion:**

Various discussion continued among the members regarding Greenway Phase 2B, future meeting dates, other topics, and casual conversation on varied subjects. There were no questions from the members.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie English