

Winchester Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, October 24, 2011
6:30pm

Meeting Location: Lord Fairfax Room

Present: Krista Farris (Chair), John Elliott (Co-Chair), Catherine Mattens, Jules Bacha, Brian Wigley, Matt Mintschenko and Kyle Homan

Absent: Mark Miller

Council Representative: Milt McInturff

City Staff: Brad Veach (Director), Lisa Hamaker (Assistant Director), Michael Asmussen and Thomas Jones

Media: Northern Virginia Daily, Candice Sipos; TV3, Katrina Bush; Winchester Star, Vic Bradshaw

Krista Farris called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Public Comments:

Jubal Early Drive Property Acquisition Support:

Mr. Dick Crane spoke to the Advisory Board in support of acquiring the Powers property on Jubal Early Drive. He was in support of keeping the area a natural habitat, rendering it an area rest stop for bicyclists and joggers. He urged the Advisory Board to accept the property with a minimal maintenance agreement.

Department Services Presentations:

During the next several months Park Divisional Coordinators will make presentations to the Advisory Board about their divisions and the role they play within the department. Two divisions were presented during the meeting.

- 1) Facility & Events Coordinator, Thomas Jones gave an overview of his division explaining he is in charge of the buildings, front desk staffing, facility rentals and non-departmental events.
- 2) Aquatics Coordinator, Michael Asmussen gave an overview of his division explaining he is in charge of the Outdoor and the Indoor Pool facilities. He also explained swim classes and the benefits swimming has to Community health, wellness and safety.

Chairman's Report

Approval of September Minutes:

Upon a motion by John Elliott and a second by Jules Bacha the September minutes were approved.

Jubal Early Drive property:

Krista Farris encouraged all of the Advisory Board members to go by the property for a view since the leaves are falling. She is waiting on a letter from a Historic Preservation Organization but it has not yet been received. A motion will be made on the property at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Director's Report

Upcoming Events:

- 1) Youth Basketball skills assessment are starting
- 2) "Jamfest" an AAU Basketball Tournament is scheduled for November 19-20
- 3) Holiday Events include Santa Letters, Cookies with Santa, Santa's Headquarters and the Christmas Parade

Park Board Inspections Report:

Lisa Hamaker has worked with the Park Maintenance Department reviewing the Park Board inspections reports that were provided by Advisory Board members. Several items have been addressed and completed such as cleaning, pruning, filling holes, checking goals, replacing a handrail, replacing trash cans, adding a dog waste station and seeding. More items will be reviewed and completed and as funds become available, additional amenities will be considered.

Naming Rights Policy Draft #1:

Brad Veach encouraged all of the Advisory Board members to review the first draft of the Naming Rights Policy and come back with suggestions and comments. He asked that comments be e-mailed to him or brought to the next Park Advisory Board meeting.

Quarterly Program/Activity Reports:

Lisa Hamaker presented the last 2 quarters of financial reporting for programs, facilities and memberships outlining the differences between 2010 and 2011.

Quarterly Park Board Attendance Report:

Brad Veach asked each of the Advisory Board members to review the report.

Annual Meeting with the Winchester Parks Foundation:

In January, 2012 the Winchester Parks Foundation members will be invited to a joint work session with the Park Advisory Board.

Committee Reports:

Skate Plaza Committee:

No update since the last meeting; John Elliott is waiting on a response from the Skate Plaza Committee.

Park Utilization Committee:

The Committee is a work in progress. They are meeting with the Park Foundation to refine some goals.

The pamphlet looks good and some of the items are being refined.

The Committee is looking at green space and naturalization. They will hold some citizen comment meetings about neighborhood parks.

The Committee is looking at Jim Barnett Park as a whole.

November/December Advisory Board Meeting Dates:

(Both held at the War Memorial Building)

Park Utilization Committee- Monday, December 5, 2011 @ 5:30pm

Monthly Advisory Board- Monday, December 5, 2011 @ 6:30pm

Board Comments:

Parks and Recreation will be helping with the Downtown Christmas Parade on Monday, November 28 if anyone from the Advisory Board can come to help.

Matt Mintschenko asked if the Field usage on Preston had been worked out.

John Elliott asked if the revision of the Parks and Recreation code had been approved by City Council.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss Krista Farris asked for a motion to adjourn; Kyle Homan made the motion, John Elliott seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted; Jennifer Stotler, Park Administration Coordinator, November 22, 2011