

Winchester Parks & Recreation

Advisory Board Agenda

Monday, August 27th – 6:30 PM

Agenda

Welcome – President Bill Stewart

Approval – July 2018 Minutes

Public Comments –

Chairman’s Report & Comments –

City Manager’s Comments –

Parks & Recreation Board Appointment – August 28, 2018 Regular Council Meeting – Resume’
Attached

Additional Comments -

Projects & Programs Committee – Report

Facilities Tour – Outside Facilities

Route of Travel and Facilities (Attached)

Parks & Recreation Director’s Report –

FY-2018 Park Operational Information -

Sensory Trail – Awaiting ground conditions allowing

Outdoor Pool –

Evaluation of Facilities & Repairs during Fall prior to following closing and prior to Winterizing

Continuing to Hire Life Guards

A Splash of Salsa – Saturday, August 25th

All Paws on Deck – Saturday, September 15th 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Creating Fall & Winter Tasks List -

Abrams Creek Wetland –

Ground Conditions Impeding Mulching of Cut Materials

Collaborative effort with Clarke County Garden Club to obtain a grant to pursue conservation efforts within the wetlands area

Maintenance Facility – Pursuing Design Build

Personnel Update – Full Time & Part Time

Aquatics Specialist – Applications & Interviews

Desk Staff – Posting

New Background Check Policy -

Facilities –

Building Maintenance Continuing w/modifications to tasks assignments

Code Compliance Issues –

Park Naming Contest – Review Committee – Board Members, Vice President, Shelly Lee, Board Member Casey Stine, Staff Molly Minch, Samantha Crisman & Sabrina Griffin – Winner to be Announced during the September 24th Board Meeting

Proposed Wireless Facility – Correspondence Attached -

Board and Staff Orientation/Work Session – October 22nd Advisory Board Meeting

Advisory Board Meeting Modification – Meeting December 10th in lieu of meeting on November 26th and December 24th

FY-2019 Budget – Review December 10th Advisory Board Meeting

Resurfacing - Potts Basketball Courts & Lowry Tennis Courts

Shentel Telecommunications Public Meeting -

Tuesday, August 14, 2018 @ 6:30PM Friendship fire Company, N. Pleasant Valley Road

Harley Owners Group – June 2019

Winchester Swim Team –

50th Anniversary Celebration -

Long Course Meet, June 2019

Advisory Board Minutes -

Assistant Director's Report –

Child Care –

Summer Camp – Overall, camp went really well. All sessions were full – close to 100 attendees each week

School Year - HIVE & HIVE Club – Registration very active, all schools have reached capacity and waitlist spots are being filled.

Activity Guide –

Fall – Completed & distributed; registration is open

Winter/Spring – information due first part of October

Programs & Events –

Athletics

Summer sports camps

Total participation = 255 participants; 121 Residents, 134 Non residents

Swinging Fore Sports

12 registered teams; doubled from last year

NEW – Adult Wiffleball – offered this fall; starting September 6

Aquatics

Swim lessons starting again week of September 10

Community Rec

Private music lessons – hoping to add drum lessons

Additional Zumba class added – adults with disabilities

Special Events

NEW – Mini Cardboard Drive-in movie – October 5

Fall Guide – Completed & Distributed

Programs & Events –

Additional Items –

Next Meeting – Monday, September 24, 2018 War Memorial Building - 6:30 PM

Comments Regarding Proposed Shentel Cell Tower Submitted to Winchester Parks and Recreation

Submitted Sunday, August 19, 2018

SHENTEL MONOPOLE
CELL PHONE TOWER (ANTENNA)
(for City Council)
19 AUG '18

Dear Lynn Miller:

Hi Lynn, hope all is going fine with you and your family, Harold

My name is Harold Bowen. I was born and raised in Winchester. I spent my early years living on Opequon Avenue, two blocks west of Jim Barnett Park. I have seen the whole of this beautiful park change and shrink over the years. My backyard consisted of an apple orchard, a cow pasture, and Senseny Park (former name of Jim Barnett Park).

As many people may know, Shentel Communications, LLC is planning to install a new monopole cell phone tower (antenna) near the Les Singhas BMX track in Jim Barnett Park. Shentel is an Edinburg- based telecommunications company that wants a piece of this beautiful park. Many of the particulars concerning this installation were mentioned in an article on pages 6 and 7 in the Winchester Star newspaper on August 8, '18. The desired location, and the financial rewards, (rent, proffers, costs, etc.) paid to the City of Winchester, were listed.

Issues:

1. Park shrinkage
2. Does the City need the money?
3. After their twenty (20) year lease expires, will the antenna and all of its accessories be removed, and will the site be returned to its original appearance?

As most people may also know the Jim Barnett Park is a land locked civic, social, and recreational facility. It is bordered on the east by interstate #81, on the west by Pleasant Valley Road, on the north by Cork Street (Senseny Road) and on the south by Millwood Avenue and Shenandoah University.

This park, over the years, has been diminished in size, eroded by commercial interests. It cannot become any bigger. Jones Funeral Home is situated along the border, as well as the Foot & Ankle Center, the Ear, Nose, & Throat Clinic, and various pieces of Shenandoah University surround part of the perimeter. It would appear that the land on which these commercial interests exist may never be returned to the park.

I am against this acquisition. The Jim Barnett Park is a "jewel" to Winchester. It contains civic sponsored picnic shelters, the Christianson Family Land children's playground and miniature golf course, multiple baseball and softball diamonds, the multi-purpose War Memorial Building, two swimming pools, the Les Singhas BMX track, walking/exercise trails, the McCormac amphitheater, a fishing lake, a memorial to Korean War veterans, a memorial to Vietnam War veterans, a snack-bar building, winter sled-riding hills, Russell Potts basketball courts, Henry Lowery tennis courts, a dog park, horse shoe courts, an antique car shelter, a remote mode-car

race track, and the historical buildings Abram's Delight and Hollingsworth Mill, etc. Most of these are attractions that benefit the citizens of Winchester.

By continuing to reduce the size of the park's "footprint" with commercial money-making activities, the city will continue to lose part of a prized possession.

I humbly implore all of the decision-making bodies, (the Winchester Planning Commission, Winchester City Council, and the Winchester Parks and Recreational Advisory Board), to vote against allowing Shentel to proceed with any acquisition of any part of Jim Barnett Park.

Once the land is gone, it is gone, and I do not feel Shentel's money is needed by the city.

Submitted Monday, August 20, 2018

I suppose the city planning department is obligated to consider all proposals from commercial business interests, but it would be appreciated if the city planners and commission would also serve as advocates for the interests of the citizenry.

A 100-foot cell tower is not suitable to that site in the park because it would be an eyesore. The M.I.A. Memorial should not have a cell tower near it. A public park is not a fair place to install such a huge tower. The arboretum is not mature. Nothing could conceal the tower and the ground equipment. The viewscape matters.

The tower would become an ever-expanding encroachment. The 26 foot X 26 foot fenced area would grow into a 40 foot X 40 foot fenced area. Over time, who knows how large that map 'footprint' would grow? Is anyone remembering that a public park is meant to be a pleasant outdoor natural open space where people can find some peace and a place to play with friends and family?

It wasn't very long ago that the city had a proposal for the Discovery Museum to be built next to the amphitheater on high ground. Fortunately area residents valued the open space in the park. The Discovery Museum is located where it should be. It is a downtown attraction. In the park, children can still fly their kites, throw frisbees and play soccer in that open space.

Has anyone pointed out the obvious? Across the street from the Jones Funeral Home, Crum Realty is selling a parcel of land. The proponents of the cell tower should buy that land and spare the public park from yet another encroachment. If the zoning is suitable, the cell tower on that site would be tolerable. Please preserve the public park.

Parks & Recreation Facilities Review – 2018

Proposed Schedule

Monday August 27, 2018

Meet War Memorial Building

Meeting to Order –

7 – Overlook Park

4 – Whittier Park

2 – Timbrook Park

5 – North, East, South & West Park

1 – Friendship Park

8 – Frederick Douglass Park

Return to War Memorial Building for Discussion & Refreshments

Winchester Parks and Recreation
Park Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, July 23rd, 2018
6:30pm

6:30 pm- Lord Fairfax Room, War Memorial Building

Present: Shelly Lee (Vice-President), Cal Allen, Michael Miller, Bill Stewart (President), Casey Stine

Absent: Regina Coates, Hector Robertson, Andy Gail

City Staff: Eden Freeman, Lynn Miller, Matt Little, Thomas Lambert, and Samantha Crisman

Media: None

Guests: None

June 25th, 2018 Minutes Approval-

Cal Allen made a motion to approve the June 25th minutes. Casey Stine seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Public Comments- None

Chairman's Report- None

City Manager Comments- Council will be discussing an appointment of a new member for the Board, announcement expected August 14th.

Projects and Programs Committee- None

Election of Board Chairman- Shelly Lee nominated Bill Stewart, the board voted unanimously to appoint him as the next President of the Advisory Board.

New Format Implementation – Jim Barnett Park – The Board visited all venues within Jim Barnett Park. Discussion of past and future projects took place.

Park Director's Report –

FY18 Park Projects Update-

- 1) **Sensory Trail, Host Lions Club** – Work to resume next week, tree removal and weather has created a delay
- 2) **Outdoor Pool** – Working through some issues, continuing to hire life guards
- 3) **Board Vacancy** – Hope to have a new appointee by the September meeting

Abrams Creek Wetlands – Collaborative effort with Clarke County Garden Club to obtain a grant to pursue conservation efforts within the wetlands area.

Maintenance Facility – Pending, meeting with other City of Winchester Staff and City Manager to discuss project in August.

Summer Camp/Child Care –

Summer Camp - Attendance remains a maximum

School Year - HIVE & HIVE Club – Registrations very active, some school's registrations are at capacity already

Personnel Update- Full time & Part Time

- 1) **Aquatics Summer Lifeguards** – Still Hiring
- 2) **Aquatics Program Specialist** – Transferred to Part Time (12 Applicants thus far)
- 3) **Desk Staff** – All positions filled

Facilities –

New Water Fountain Indoor Aquatics Facility – Capital Projects from WST
Building Maintenance Continuing with modifications to tasks assignments

Weight Room – Equipment re-upholstered, some equipment painted, room painted

Corridor – War Memorial Bldg. to Indoor Aquatics Painted

Code Compliance Issues – Corrected (Swing of Corridor Door, Entrance to Indoor Pool)

Park Naming Contest – Request two (2) Board Members to Serve as Judges with Molly, Samantha & Sabrina, Shelly Lee volunteered to serve as a committee member, Casey Stine also volunteered

FY-2019 Budget Preparation – Will provide a detailed review in October

Funding for Resurfacing Potts Basketball Courts & Lowry Tennis Courts supplied in FY19 Budget

Shentel Telecommunications Public Meeting -

Tuesday, August 14, 2018 @ 6:30PM Friendship Fire Company, N. Pleasant Valley Road

Assistant Park Director's Report

• Activity Guide

- Fall guide has been sent to the printer
 - Distribution target date = August 10/11

• Programs & Events

- Athletics
 - Summer sports camps
 - Golf (week of July 2) – 12 kids
 - Tennis (week of July 9) – 37 kids!
 - Football (week of July 16) – 13 kids
 - Soccer (week of July 23) – 31 kids
 - 2 Nationals trips
 - August 18 vs. Marlins; 11 as of today
 - Swinging Fore Sports – rescheduled for Friday, July 27 @ Winchester Country Club
 - Still accepting volunteers & players
 - Thank you to Summit Bank! Title Sponsor
- Aquatics
 - Christmas in July – July 25, noon-3pm
- Community Rec
 - One Book One Community trip to NYC – October 6
 - *“The Supreme Macaroni Factory”*
- HIVE
 - Summer camp
 - Full with waiting list each week
- Special Events
 - Splash of Salsa – August 25; 8-10pm
 - Dog Swim – September 15; 1-3pm

• Dog Park Membership

- 173 members as of 7/23/18

• Park Sign Contest

- Entries have been submitted; judging to take place with Board Members and staff members
 - Schedule TBD

Additional – None

Board Comments/Idea Sharing:

- Shelly Lee commented on the great size of Tennis Camp this year, wants same numbers for Baseball camps
- Michael Miller asked about the Lacrosse camp numbers, Matt informed the Board it was cancelled (not enough instructors)
- Lynn commented on the programming blossoming and needing instructors and space
- Officials don't want to volunteer anymore, they want to be paid. Bill commented about high school soccer losing coaches to travel teams. Lynn added we've been able to keep prices down so kids can afford to participate in our programs, but how does that affect our partnerships, is it competition? Casey Stine stressed how important it is to keep costs down, as a board we need to be focusing on being inclusive for the entire community
- The Board commented on how well kept the park is, gave their compliments to Tommy and his guys in Maintenance
- Patsy Cline park area is coming along nicely, we will be in charge of maintenance of the park
- Shelly asked about the shortage of lifeguards, Lynn responded we are experiencing a shortage and hope to recruit more seasoned individuals

Next Monthly Park Advisory Board Meeting: Monday, August 27th, 2018 @ 6:30pm.

Adjournment- With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cal Allen, seconded by Casey Stine and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted by Samantha Crisman; Secretary to the Park Advisory Board