



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Meeting Date: Thursday, March 3, 2022
VIRTUAL TEAMS MEETING – 6:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

Approved 4/7/22

PRESENT	DISTRICT	STANDING COMMITTEES
Brenda White Vaughn, Chair	Bermuda District	Athletic Activities Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Cathy Cheely, Vice-Chair	Bermuda District	Capital Projects Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Jason C. Brown	Clover Hill District	To be Determined
David Glass	School Board Representative	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee
Raymond Marsh	Matoaca District	Athletic Activities Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Rob McCurry	Midlothian District	Athletic Activities Committee
Shayne McDavid	Clover Hill District	Capital Projects Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
William “Billy” Pipp	Matoaca District	Capital Projects Committee
John Simpson	Midlothian District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee
Bob Terrell	Dale District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee
Rueben Turner	Dale District	Athletic Activities Committee

Quorum is 6 per Bylaws

ABSENT

All Commissioners were present		
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Parks and Recreation Liaisons/County Staff

Present:

- Marlaine Creasey-Smith, Assistant Director, Recreation, Primary Liaison Athletic Activities, Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committee
- Stan Thorne, Assistant Director, Parks, Primary Liaison Parks, Capital Projects, Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committee
- Stuart Connock, Jr., Assistant Director, Planning & Construction Services, Primary Liaison, Capital Projects and Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committee
- Bill Carlson, Athletics Manager, Liaison Athletic Activities, Capital Projects Committee
- Janit Llewellyn, Principal Planner, Planning & Construction Services
- Holly Angel, Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation

Absent:

- Vacant, Director, Primary Liaison

Speaker(s) or Guests Present:	Subject/Organization
Chris Terrell	Pickleball
Roland Stokes	Cogbill Park
Bob Polino, Austin Brockenbrough, President	Presenter
Jonathan Pickral, Austin Brockenbrough, Civil Engineer	Presenter
Tristan Cleveland, LPDA, Landscape Architect	Presenter

The following additional individuals were present during the meeting but did not address the Commission or Staff: Lou Lippa, Linda Scott, JJ (no complete name), Mike Hairfield, Brian Wakeman and Lisa Murphy.

🌿 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Mission Statement 🌿

Working in partnership with the public, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Board of Supervisors, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) seeks to eliminate obstacles that interfere with Chesterfield County’s ability to efficiently and safely provide greenways, parks, recreational facilities, and associated programs. PRAC also strives to support recreational programs and facilities that a First-Choice Community such as Chesterfield should afford its citizens, as well as to exercise leadership in projecting the future recreational needs of the County’s citizens and determining how best to meet those needs.

Public Statement made by Department Secretary prior to meeting starting: If Still Virtual – We thank you for attending this evening. A couple housekeeping items before we begin. Please be sure to mute your speaker if you are not speaking. If you desire to speak, raise your hand and you will be called upon. If you make a motion, please state your name and the motion that you are making so that the records are complete. This is a public meeting and we welcome comments on items that are not on the agenda. An opportunity at the end of the meeting will be given to each individual that would like to speak to items that are not on the agenda, for no longer than 3 minutes each. If there are items for Public Hearing and input, the Commission will first be given an opportunity to discuss and ask questions and then it will be opened up to the public to ask questions. As items are presented to the Commission, we ask that Commission members be given the first opportunity to ask questions. The public will have an opportunity to ask questions, when called upon. All individuals desiring to speak will be acknowledged and called upon to do so. Please also be reminded that this public meeting is being recorded as a matter of public record for the files. Madame Chair.

Meeting Procedures:

The meeting was held virtually and opportunities for those that desired to speak were given.

- I. **Call PRAC Meeting to Order:** Brenda White Vaughn welcomed the Virtual assembly at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present. All 11 commission members were present for the meeting.
- II. **Non-Sectarian Invocation:** The invocation was given by Bob Terrell.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Cathy Cheely led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. **Introduction of New Clover Hill District PRAC Member** – Brenda White Vaughn introduced Jason C. Brown, new Clover Hill District Commissioner appointed by Chris Winslow and approved at the February 23 Board of Supervisors meeting, for the remainder of the term that will expire 12/31/23 vacated by Mary Ellin Arch.
- V. **Approval of the PRAC Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022:**
 - 🌿 A motion was made to approve the February 3, 2022, minutes by Bob Terrell with a 2nd by Cathy Cheely. There being no further discussion, the minutes were approved as presented. No Member opposed. The approved minutes will be posted on the Parks and Recreation website: <https://www.chesterfield.gov/1075/Parks-Recreation-Advisory-Commission-PRA>
- VI. **Amendments to the Agenda:** No Amendments to the Agenda.
- VII. **Public Hearing** – *(staff or presenter responses are in italics)*
 - 🌿 Beulah Neighborhood Park – Public Comments – Stuart Connock/Janit Llewellyn- Jonathan Pickral with Austin Brockenbough started off with the Master Plan restatement for Beulah Neighborhood Park (add ADA accessible) and discussion from the Commissioners and citizens were entertained. Other presenters present that spoke were Bob Polino with Austin Brockenbough and Tristan Cleveland with LPDA.

- David Glass – Baseball field – *Stuart Connock - will be lighted so that there will be extended use in the evenings*
- Shayne McDavid – Homes on outside of park – overall size of plot of land – how has the public been informed? – *Stuart – this development plan follows the zoning case - we did hold a public meeting – it has been designed and improved - we got no negative comments – we have done lighting tests with Musco*
- Billy Pipp – map for the cricket pitch to ensure that it doesn't get worn down – between 2 soccer fields – what is the surface or different type of grass? – *Stuart – cricket pitch is infield material – clay material so that is uniform surface – a contained surface*
- Cathy Cheely – Playground – are you planning on having an adult exercise area there and tell me more about this area that is the picnic plaza with shade structure and restroom area – are there others on the ground? – *Jonathan Pickral – labeled H is a 20x20 tent surrounded by trees to add shade – not aware at this time that an adult exercise area will be added – restroom facility – provided for the recreational area – however we do have the rec center that will provide additional facilities.*
 - *Janit – Adult fitness areas – planned for each of the magisterial districts – being planned in the regional parks so that need should be available and fairly close to their home in the near future – these projects are already funded – 1 should be open this spring at Daniel and Dodd is already open*
- Chris Terrell – Pickleball Club – love to see that there is a pickleball facility – any insight to putting in additional pickleball court instead of the tennis court. You would want multiple courts instead of just one court – question/request is it at all possible that an additional pickleball court could be added – *Janit – one of the purposes of the court and diversity of recreation you see here is the association that the rec center will have with the neighborhood – want to represent as much diversity as possible – Chris – Rec Center – inside – are there any plans to have multi sports such as indoor pickleball as well – Stuart – inside is a renovation – we do plan to use as a multi-sport location and will also have multiple sports and then the large cafeteria space could be set up for pickleball.*
- Mr. Stokes – what about senior citizens for them and other family picnic area and family picnic areas - sports like corn hole and for physically challenged areas for our citizens – *Janit – the trail will be much more accessible after we finish around the entire park area – and it is a tight area for programs – will not be used for programs or rentals – will be open for anyone to use for any activity – neighborhood kids will be very involved – complimenting the rec center – Mr. Stokes – accessible to the rec center – and how it will operate – Stuart – it will be operated on a larger scale but similar to other 3 that we have – active programming – classroom space – can sit 250 people in the cafeteria – stage that productions can be held on – full AV to show movie nights will offer quite a bit to the public – does come with a gym that will be refurbished – this will have 35,000 sq feet of rec center to use – design will all be ADA accessible.*

VIII. Old Business: Update – VCU Survey and Parks & Recreation Master Plan Survey – Janit Llewellyn – March 11 – 3:30 there will be a TEAMS follow up meeting and David Glass and Mr. Stokes will both be participating in that follow up meeting. We will be looking at developing the questionnaire and bringing that back in May before it will be ready – input will be from PR staff before the survey is made available in May for PRAC.

IX. New Business: No New Business

X. Parks and Recreation Department Updates: Marlaine Creasey-Smith, Assistant Director, Recreation – Welcome to **Jason C. Brown, Clover Hill District**, we are glad to have you on board and know that we are always available if you should have any questions and we look forward to working with you; While February may have been a short month, it was packed full of opportunities; **Chesterfield County was named Community Partner of the Year by Sportable** and the County was acknowledged at the February 23 Board of Supervisors meeting; **Andrea Farag – 4H Youth in Action** recognized at 2/23 BOS; and RVA Sports Awards on February 5; **Job Fair** on March 26 at Chesterfield Towne Centre; **Henricus – March 26 – 400th Anniversary**; There were many opportunities for the community to participate in **Black History Month** presentations and talks around the county; We've had some cold days in February and it is hard to think about swimming but **Swim RVA** was the host for 2 large events the end of January with over 1000 swimmers; **10th Annual Monster Cross** at Pocahontas State Park; **Therapeutic Recreation month** was held during February and citizens were able to stop by the recreation centers to pick up items to take home; **Therapeutic Recreation line dancing** has returned to Huguenot Baptist Church – this is the first session since 2019; Mark Battista led a hike to **Cumberland State Forest** in early February completing a 5-mile hike through the 16,222 acre forest and also led an Ettrick Canal Hike along the Appomattox River; Ericka Bynum, Community Recreation shared with the **Positive Parenting Coalition** on February 9 – glad to be a part of this great group of individuals who are on a mission to offer amazing programs and opportunities to the community; A new exhibit at the **Chesterfield County Museum** was put in place focusing on Historic Point of Rocks; **EventMakers USA** amendment contract will go before the BOS on March 9 to extend the venue for concerts in 2022; **River City Sportsplex** garners national accolades as top facility for 2nd year in a row – recognized by SportsEvents Magazine as top in the U. S. Annual Readers' Choice Awards as an **All-**

Star Outdoor Sports Venue; Thanks to each of you for all that you do as advocates for the Department and the county!

XI. Parks and Recreation Staff Reports: *(Staff comments are in italics)*

🌱 **DPACS Staff Report:** Stuart Connock – **CIP** – (The CIP drives all our projects) - FY23-27 shared with BOS on 2/23 as part of their work session – looking at a considerable 5-year bond issue (will be voted on in November) – a new source that we have not had in the past is **CVTA - Central Virginia Transportation Authority** – for all modes of transportation - Including bicycles and pedestrians; **Beulah Neighborhood Park – Master Planning; Cogbill site** - waiting on final determination on wetlands and connectivity that dictates the buffer around these areas; **Robious Landing Floating Diverter** – out for bid currently – expect to go to BOS in April to award that project and get in place before the storms come typically toward the end of the summer; **Harrowgate Park – Project Bidding - Phase III** – great example of non-scheduled open space – large destination playground and restroom.

- Shayne McDavid – the proposed **water facility** across from RCSP – is there clearing going on? – *Stuart - they are beginning as I understand – a portion of the water park is being started; EventMakers* – vote with the BOS to move to RCSP for rest of 2022 – *Marlie – notice was made at the 2/23 BOS meeting that there would be a public hearing and an opportunity for public to voice concerns at the board meeting to move the venue for concerts to River City Sportsplex – RCSP has greater amenities to offer for parking – contract is valid thru 12/31/22. – Shayne – will this have anything to do with where it will be held – noise levels? – Stuart - there is an open field area that is north of the restroom concession at the front of river city and that is where the concert venue will be – land that is earmarked for later development – little more concert friendly and more centrally located – Chesterfield residents will have the opportunity for various concerts – looking at 10 concerts throughout the year – the layout has already been done – cannot be any more than 50 decibels to the closest residential area – the closest is on the other side of Powhite – over ½ mile away; Shayne – mixed use, recreational but getting in and out of there with 288 is there any talk of putting exit ramps in there – Stuart – yes, that is being studied*
- **Rob McCurry** – Robious Landing Floating Diverter – originally was to be in front of BOS in March – now April – *Stuart – reason for postponement – bidders waited until the day before and flooded with questions – bidders had quite a few questions too late in the process for us to maintain the bid schedule – 3/23 is solely budget so had to move to April for project; Rob – any word on the 2 ice rinks off Midlothian – Stuart - that is an Economic Development project - PR would not be involved in the operation of the facility – we have asked to be part of those discussions in part of the facility design*
- **Roland Stokes** – Cogbill Park – what is the status – Wetlands and do you think there is an ending date when a final presentation will be made? – *Stuart – holdup is not with our engineers – they have done an on-site wetlands determination and turned over to the Corp of Engineers – we need to know what our area to work with is in order to be able to move forward*

🌱 **Parks Staff Report:** Stan Thorne – from Parks Maintenance Operations – trying to **transition to spring**; dock at **Robious Landing** was scheduled for 3/2 but problems with the crane and are coming back on March 7 weather permitting; Success in filling **parks positions** – 6 PMW still open – 1 Athletic position – 1 Horticulturist position is vacant – Bo Dodson is relocating; back to January in our lowest point – **available staff** with COVID, vacancies as well as folks was down to about 56% of staff and staring a snow storm in the face – we have made strides and excited about the spring season that is coming up; **equipment and vehicle challenges** still exist as supply line issues have created issues and starting to trickle in and fill in some of those gaps – getting close to being fully staffed; **Athletic Crew** will be taking over the ½ of class 1 athletic fields – will be our park athletic fields and park complexes where the highest usage is – the districts will still do some field maintenance with class 2 and 3 - but will enable us to spend a little more time to improve the quality in service there and more fields available for competitive uses and set a target and pilot program to try to increase the maintenance at the front of the schools to one time a week and the full school to every 14 days

- **Shayne McDavid** – prices on grass seed and fertilizer? – *Stan - had a long conversation with purchasing folks – some vendors are hesitant to put in bids – Stan – working hard to work thru those things*

XII. Public Comments on Unscheduled Matters: *this is an opportunity for the public attending to voice concerns over any issue/concern that is not on the agenda – each citizen will have 3 minutes to voice their comments. All citizens will be acknowledged and called upon by the Chair or designee to address the Commission or Staff*

🌱 There were no speakers that desired to speak.

XIII. Committee Reports: No Committee(s) Report

XIV. Commission Roundtable Discussions: (Park Champion Briefs)

🌱 **Jason Brown** – has to attend to another function at 7

🌱 **Rueben Turner** – had to leave the meeting for another commitment

🌱 **Cathy Cheely** – spent some time at Dutch Gap -new Access at Henricus and any impact on the wildlife? – *Stuart – the new access is one of the 4 Dominion projects building a new road in from the east from Meadowville and under 295 and thru the*

old River's Bend Golf Course and drop you off in the middle of Henricus – probably a year before it will be bid and 2 years at least to build; starting to move ash but moving slowly to make sure that the procedures are in place for a smooth move

- 🌱 **David Glass** – thanks for the invitation to participate on the meeting to help with the survey on 3/11/22
- 🌱 **John Simpson** – had to leave at 7:25 for another obligation
- 🌱 **Billy Pipp** – thanks to Stuart – am now a TBall coach and looking forward to seeing the other fields that you maintain as I experience other locations; hopefully next month will meet in person
- 🌱 **Rob McCurry** – thanks to Tony Hamby and Brad King at the Midlothian district – park managers – working very hard to get all facilities up in all areas; Question – Mid-Lothian Mines – bunch of vandalized stuff in the last couple of months – any catches or any idea or thought to put cameras out or more police patrols – *Stan – don't know if it is the same group or individual – police have beefed up patrol and to spend some time in our parks just to have a presence – couple groups working with police on other means, surveillance at other areas, addressing signage at parks*
- 🌱 **Bob Terrell** – thanks to Ronnie Hobson with Athletics for excellent work this past basketball season – coordinated the leagues with the schools on numerous changes on the schedule due to weather and other issues – excellent job!
- 🌱 **Shayne McDavid** – welcome to Jason Brown to the Commission – to Billy it is great to see more and more people every day and thanks to Janit for all efforts and information provided tonight
- 🌱 **Raymond Marsh** – need to check out the 17 parks in our district; Is anyone purchasing the land to put a county open boat launch on the county side without having to go thru Chesdin Landing or go to Dinwiddie County and other consideration – Ettrick Park - runoff pond close to the building – mosquito as temps start to go up? – *Stuart – we have in our master plan to be looking on the Chesdin side to be looking for access that is in long range plan – not too many places - bit of challenge that doesn't have a lot of cost to get down to a boat launch – maybe some type of partnership opportunity that could happen in the future; Stan – Ettrick Park – runoff pond – will look into that and will follow up with Raymond and report back*
- 🌱 **Marlaine Creasey-Smith** – nothing further having technical problems with TEAMS
- 🌱 **Stuart Connock** – nothing further
- 🌱 **Stan Thorne** – Parks – thanks to Bob Terrell for kudos on inclement weather – 1 project going on at CTC Hull hill at the entrance road during winter weather conditions – has been hazardous and unsafe – removing some trees so that some sunlight can get access to that area – welcome back to the coaching ranks Billy Pipp
- 🌱 **Bill Carlson** – all leagues for the first time participated in the youth basketball program since the pandemic - will finish season in next 2 weeks; startup of baseball, softball, lacrosse, hockey and soccer for the spring season
- 🌱 **Holly Angel** – thanks to all the Commissioners for attending tonight in light of all the different schedules – anticipation is that we will continue to meet Virtually through May due to the topics that are on the agenda and the large numbers that could be expected to ensure that everyone hears the same message with the hope that in August we can come back in person in August
- 🌱 **Brenda White Vaughn** – thanks to all the PR staff whatever your job and duty – no matter the season – thanks for making our parks shine – want to get with Stan about stuff at the Fairgrounds – lighting and bulbs that need to be replaced – hoping for an even greater fair this year – Fair - August 30 – International Day at the Fair – something new – August 26 – September 3 – will be a great time!

XV. **Recommendation of Agenda Items for the April 7, 2022 - meeting and upcoming meetings:**

- 🌱 April 7 – Cogbill Road Phase One Development Plan Public Comments and Tennis to Pickleball Conversation Analysis Update – Stuart Connock
 - From Parks - Update on Runoff Pond at Ettrick Park from Parks/Vandalism at Mid-Lothian Mines, etc.
- 🌱 May 5 – Youth Citizen Board Project – Marlie Creasey-Smith

XVI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Holly Angel, Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation. *The next PRAC meeting will be at 6:00 on Thursday, April 7, 2022 – Virtually and at this time, we will plan on May being Virtual as well. Hopeful to return to in-person in August 2022. (No meetings held in June or July unless needed).*