



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Meeting Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Community Development Building Multipurpose Room

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brenda White Vaughn, Chair, Bermuda District
 Cathy Cheely, Vice Chair, Bermuda District
 David Glass, School Board Representative
 Rueben Turner, Dale District
 Bob Terrell, Dale District

Quorum is 6 per Bylaws

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jason C. Brown, Clover Hill District
 Raymond Marsh, Matoaca District
 Shayne McDavid, Clover Hill District
 Robert McCurry, Midlothian District
 William Pipp, Matoaca District
 John Simpson, Midlothian District

Parks and Recreation Liaisons/County Staff

Present:

- Neil Luther, Director, Primary Liaison, Parks and Recreation
- Marlaine Creasey-Smith, Assistant Director - Recreation, Parks and Recreation
- Janit Llewellyn, Planning Manager, Parks and Recreation
- Stephanie Christmas, GIS Specialist, Parks and Recreation
- Karen Robinson, Administrative Analyst, Parks & Recreation

Speaker (s) or Guests Present:

Subject/Organization

Cassandra Goodhough	Goyne Dog Park
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🔗 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.

Meeting Procedures:

The meeting was held in-person and opportunities for those that desired to speak were given.

- I. **Call PRAC Meeting to Order:** Brenda White Vaughn welcomed the assembly at 6:02 p.m. without a quorum.

- II. Non-Sectarian Invocation:** The invocation was given by Bob Terrell.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance:** Neil Luther led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Approval of the PRAC Meeting Minutes:**
There being no quorum, the August 4 minutes will stand as corrected and a vote to approve them will be held at the October 6 meeting.
- V. Amendments to the Agenda :** There were no amendments to the agenda.
- VI. Old Business:**
Update - Neil Luther informed the group that a user input meeting for CTC Hull Dog Park has been scheduled for September 22 at 6 pm. Parks and Recreation staff will be available at that meeting to receive citizen feedback and answer questions. A sign has been posted at the site to notify users and the meeting has been publicized on social media. Parks and Recreation staff will prepare a formal report for the Commission. A member of the public asked for clarification of the meeting date and time. Mr. Luther provided clarification.
- VII. New Business:**
▪ No new business was discussed.
- X. Parks and Recreation Director Updates:**
▪ Save the date for Eppington Heritage Day on October 1
▪ A copy of the FY2022 Parks and Recreation Annual Report was distributed to PRAC
▪ FY2024 budget call will take place soon, first cycle will build capital budget around bond referendum
▪ Fall will be busy with several special events and the fall sports season.
▪ Sports tourism, athletics, and program participation numbers are edging back up to pre-COVID numbers. A report on these numbers will be presented to PRAC at the next meeting.
- XI. Parks and Recreation Staff Reports:**
Planning and Construction Staff Report: (Neil Luther for Stuart Connock)
▪ Solicitations are open for the countywide ADA assessment and the selection process is underway. We hope that this issue will go to the Board of Supervisors for award next month.
▪ Parks and Recreation is currently working with Chesterfield County Public Schools to solicit facility condition assessments to benchmark all facilities including paving, restrooms, athletic fields, etc to help both organizations prioritize and plan facility renovations and upgrades. We are hoping this project will go out to bid before the end of the year, with an award being granted in the first quarter of 2023.
▪ The Parks and Recreation Master Plan will kick off during the spring/summer of 2023 and will include a needs assessment, trends analysis, and public input sessions. The entire process is slated to take between 18 months to two years and will depend on PRAC for assistance with public input.
▪ Project updates:
 - Beulah Park - submitted for plan approval and is funded, should go to the Board of Supervisors for award in early 2023
 - Cogbill Park - submitted for site plan approval in first phase, lagging a couple months behind Beulah, construction should start summer 2023
 - Harrowgate Park replacement - the phase 3 bid is back out for bid, there is more interest so far this time, hope to award bid before the end of the year

- High school turf fields - ready to go to bid on a performance contract with a unit price feature that will allow the county to award to the same contractor for future sites as funding is available
 - Dominion/Dutch Gap - the restoration of the Relic River trail and the final design for Coyote Drive access are both close to gaining approval, both projects are in the review stage and hope that they will be ready for bid by spring 2023
 - Horner Park - the waterline project is nearing completion, bid for two restrooms is out for rebid
 - New picnic shelters at Goyne and Dodd Parks are now open
 - Rockwood pickleball/tennis upgrades - there was a delay in getting pickleball nets, should be here by mid-September, Parks and Recreation will work with the Pickleball Club of Chesterfield County to schedule a grand reopening in early October
 - Swift Creek Middle School - track and field upgrades are underway
- Rueben Turner asked for clarification about what the Harrowgate bid was for. Mr. Luther responded by clarifying that it was to replace the true community park with a playground, trails, etc that was lost because of school construction.
 - Cathy Cheely asked what the next phase for Historic Point of Rocks is. Mr. Luther responded that access to the site is part of the upcoming bond referendum with \$500,000 allocated for road and parking access if approved.
 - Roland Stokes asked why \$17.2 million is being allocated for River City Sportsplex as part of the bond referendum. Mr. Luther indicated that the funds will go toward completing the athletic field complement and the addition of community park features such as trails, a destination playground, spray pad. These improvements will benefit the 50,000 residents living within 5-10 miles of the site. Mr. Stokes inquired about a football field at the site. Mr. Luther responded that a field will be renovated to accommodate football.
 - Roland Stokes asked if Parks and Recreation had performed a survey to determine how many residents will be served by River City Sportsplex. Mr. Luther her replied that Parks and Recreation worked with the county's Planning Department to obtain that data. Mr. Stokes followed up by asking if a similar study had been performed regarding Cogbill Park. Stephanie Christmas responded that Parks and Recreation is working to fine tune data that will allow the department to look at 5-year population projections and their impact on the park system as a whole but ran into some issues with the data. Mr. Stokes asked if geographic information is being considered. Ms. Christmas indicated that she would follow up with him on this topic.
 - Roland Stokes noted that the construction of Cogbill Park will create a hazardous situation exiting the King's Forest subdivision and inquired as to whether a pedestrian bridge will be constructed for those wishing to continue daily walks. Janit Llewellyn noted that the area Mr. Stokes referenced was not part of the site plan so she will consult with a representative from VDOT to address this.

 **Parks Staff Report:** (Neil Luther for Stan Thorne)

- School grounds looked great for the opening of schools, used over 3,000 cubic yards of mulch
- Chesterfield County Fair was an operational success, Jonny Folster did a great job rehabbing the horse ring
- Giving some sites extra attention to make them pop for user groups
- Stan will lead the CTC Hull Dog Park user input meeting on September 22 at 6 pm

 **Recreation Staff Report:** (Marlie Creasey-Smith)

- Eppington Heritage Day and the Community Cup are both scheduled for October 1, Festival de Musica will take place immediately following the Community Cup at River City Sportsplex
- There are two concerts taking place at River City Sportsplex before the next PRAC meeting with 38 Special performing on September 18 and Government Mule performing on October 8
- Working with Sportable to host disability etiquette training at Ettrick Recreation Center on September 30

XII. Public Comments on Unscheduled Matters: To Be Read by the Chair: 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

🌱 **Cassandra Goodhough** - Goyne Dog Park:

At the last PRAC meeting there was a lot of discussion about herbicide usage at dog parks but nothing was decided. Requested more information on what is used and how often. Neil Luther responded that glyphosate was being used but after the discussion at the last PRAC meeting, Parks staff have been instructed to no longer spray within the fence line or at the fence at dog parks.

XIII. Committee Reports : No Committee(s) Report

XIV. Commission Roundtable Discussions: (Park Champion Briefs)

🌱 **Rueben Turner** - Received an email from a freshman at Bird High who has started a disc golf club inquiring about the possibility of installing a course at the school. Janit Llewellyn responded that Parks and Recreation studied sites best suited for a new disc golf course and determined that Horner Park would be the best fit. Parks and Recreation would like to install a tournament-quality course at Horner Park. Neil Luther noted that Parks and Recreation supports disc golf as a park use.

🌱 **Bob Terrell** - Congratulations to Brenda for doing a super job with the fair

🌱 **Cathy Cheely** - Commend Parks staff for doing such a good job with park cleanup, encourage everyone to attend Eppington Heritage Day

🌱 **David Glass** - Bensley Park fields looking really good, look forward to starting the season on September 17

🌱 **Bob Terrell** - no comments

🌱 **Marlaine Creasey-Smith** - no comments

🌱 **Neil Luther** - no comments

🌱 **Karen Robinson** - no comments

🌱 **Brenda White Vaughn** - Recognized Jonny Folster and Parks and Recreation staff for their help with the fair which set new attendance records this year. Next year's fair will be from August 25 - September 2, 2023.

XV. Recommendation of Agenda Items for the October 6 In-Person Meeting:

🌱 Pickleball ribbon cutting

🌱 Dog Park Update - Stan Thorne

XVI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by Karen Robinson, Administrative Analyst, Parks & Recreation. **The next PRAC meeting will be at 6:00 on Thursday, October 6, 2022 - In-Person at the Community Development Building. (No meetings held in June or July unless needed).**