

PRINCE WILLIAM

—Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Jane Beyer, Coles District
Brodie Freer, Occoquan District
Christian Thom, At Large Member
Erica Tredinnick, Brentsville District
Jeff Bergman, Gainesville District
Nate Murphy, Neabsco District
David Miles, Potomac District
Sharon Richardson, Woodbridge District

October 20, 2021

Commission Members Present

Brodie Freer
Jeff Bergman
Jane Beyer
David Miles
Nate Murphy
Sharon Richardson
Christian Thom
Erica Tredinnick

Staff Present

Ann Marie Maher
Audra Medve
John Blevins
Dan Cook
Trey Payne
Todd Reid
Tony Charland
Dee Fredrickson
Amir Wenrich
Matt White
Veronica Laughman

Commission Members Absent

None

Guests

Secretary

Shannon Jaenicke

At 7:00 p.m. Brodie Freer called the regular meeting of the Prince William County Parks and Recreation Commission to order. Mr. Freer asked all to rise; Nate Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Administrative Items

Res. No. 21-24 Approve the minutes of September 15, 2021, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. **APPROVED (CT:JB), Unanimous**

Citizens Time

None

Committee Reports

None

Presentation Items

MORE- MTB, Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts – Mr. Martin Fernandez and Mr. Ernest Rodriguez presented progress on our partnership to construct a network of mountain bike trails at Locust Shade Park. Over \$100,000 was raised to fund the project, including grants from MORE, REI, The National Park Foundation, the Outdoor Foundation, as well as from private donations. The 7 miles of trail include 6 new bridges and 12 wood features. A Ribbon Cutting for the completed trail work is planned. [Powerpoint Presentation available from the Secretary to the Commission]

Park Ranger Division Update – Chief Todd Reid and Assistant Chief Antonio Charland. Chief Reid updated the Commission on Ranger Division activities and Division Initiatives. FY 22 Division Initiatives include - In-Service Training with the PWC PD, new authority for ticket writing and towing enforcement, a new partnership with the PWC PD Training Academy to develop a 3-4 week in seat Park

Ranger Basic Training Academy, partnering with Walmart to hold bike safety and riding courses in underserved communities, and increased outreach in the community.

Chief Reid introduced Rangers Wysocki, Wilk and Wear. Seth presented Rangers Wilk and Wysocki with certificates from the International Police Mountain Bike Association for completion of the Police Cyclist Course. [Powerpoint Presentation available from the Secretary to the Commission]

Adaptive Recreation Programming Updates -Veronica Laughman presented Adaptive Recreation program services and growth in demand in this area over the last few years. Services within this program include ADA Compliance Coordination, Inclusion Services, Adapted Recreation and Therapeutic Recreation. [Powerpoint Presentation available from the Secretary to the Commission]

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Director Time

FY 2023 Budget Initiatives-

Seth updated the Commission on the addition of 4 new Budget Initiatives that have been added to our FY 23 Budget Congress priorities. These initiatives along with our other ranked priorities will be delivered to the CXO for consideration for inclusion in his FY 23 Budget Proposal to the Board of County Supervisors.

1. Public Art Program – (1.0 FTE)
2. Cultural and Natural Resource Division – (2.0 FTEs)
3. Activation of Connaughton Plaza
4. Historic Preservation—Archeology Lab

Seth introduced our new Recreation Division Chief John Blevins and announced the upcoming retirement of our Administrative Division Chief Dee Fredrickson.

A new Recreation Manager position is being created and will oversee Children's Programs, Adaptive Recreation, Business Services and the School Liaison. This position will also do grant writing for the department.

The First Tee Program raised \$6,500 at their Annual Fundraising Tournament.

Bids have been opened for Rollins Ford Park Construction and a very good bid was received. Staff are working through the process and next steps.

Seth received a request from Erica Tredinnick to consider naming Rollins Ford Park "Ryland Harris Park" after a local teen athlete who recently lost his battle with brain cancer. The request will be added to the November meeting agenda for consideration.

Commissioners Time

Ms. Richardson Attended the PHNST Occoquan Wildlife Refuge Trail Segment Ribbon Cutting.

It was well attended and is a fantastic and beautiful trail.

- Mr. Miles Thanked Chief Reid for his update on the Ranger Division and especially for promoting the children's bike riding/safety lessons and the bikes for kids program through the Walmart grant.
- Mr. Bergman Thanked staff for the Park Bus Tour, he hopes it will be an annual event.
- Ms. Beyer Thanked the MORE trail group for the incredible work at Locust Shade Park. She also thanked staff for the bus tour and tonight's presentations on the Ranger and Adaptive Recreation programs. She attended the Ribbon Cutting for the PHNST Occoquan Wildlife Refuge Trail Segment and was happy to see so many people there.
- Mr. Thom Excellent presentations tonight. He is very impressed with the growth in professionalism of the Ranger Division and the growth in awareness of Adaptive Recreation.
- Ms. Tredinnick Thanked the Commissioners for receiving her request for the Rollins Ford Park naming. She is very excited about the new bike trails at Locust Shade Park. She attended a Park Acquisition meeting with Supervisor Lawson and a meeting with the Brentsville District Trails and Blueways Commissioner.
- Mr. Freer Welcomed John Blevins and wished Dee Fredrickson well in retirement. He thanked Dan Pittman for driving the tour bus for the Parks Tour last month and he also hopes to make it an annual event.

Closed Session

None.

Adjournment


Res. No. 21-25 *There being no further business to come before the Commission, at 9:00 p.m., the meeting was ADJOURNED. **APPROVED (ET:DM, Unanimous, Absent from Vote: NM).***

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on November 17, 2021, at the Hellwig Park Administration Building.

Minutes **APPROVED** at Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on November 17, 2021.


Brodie Freer, Chairman


Seth Hendler-Voss, Director


Shannon Jaenicke, Secretary