

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

September 15, 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
Brendon Hanafin
Dan Cook
Trey Payne
Todd Reid
Amir Wenrich
Dee Fredrickson
Mac Slover
Becca Frece
Darrius Turner
Michael Rojas

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; David Miles led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Administrative Items

Res. No. 21-22 Approve the minutes of August 18, 2021, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. **APPROVED (JB:JBg), Unanimous; Abstain; SR, Absent from Vote; NM**

Citizens Time

None

Committee Reports

None

Presentation Items

NOVA BMX – Joshua Gustin, President presented information regarding the USA BMX East Coast National Event. After the COVID 19 pandemic cancelled this event in 2020, the East Coast Nationals were held on August 13 to 15th with 3,864 attendees including 920 participants over 3 days. Mr. Gustin was very complimentary of DPRT staff and volunteer efforts to ensure a successful event and was also very grateful for the investment the county has made in lighting the BMX track.

Seth Hendler-Voss presented a commemorative print to Mr. Gustin and thanked him for the NOVA BMX partnership, providing opportunities for the residents of Prince William County.

Seth also presented commemorative prints to these staff members for their efforts in various aspects of the event: Michael Rojas, Mac Slover, Dan Cook, Becca Frece, Darrius Turner, Trey Payne, Nicole Warner, Catrina Stroman and a special mention for Ann Marie Maher.

Parks CIP , BFP and Bond Projects Update – Brendon Hanafin

Brendon provided status update on active and recently completed projects. [These documents are available from the Secretary to the Commission}

New Business

None

Old Business

Park Tour with Park Foundation

Chairman Freer confirmed the date of September 25th. The timing was changed to 10 am departure from Hellwig. As this will be considered a public meeting, with a quorum of more than 3 members present, the tour itinerary will be advertised and some seats made available for the public.

Director Time

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

The Board of County Supervisors met on Sept 14 in work session to consider funding initiatives with the first tranche of ARPA funds. The first tranche includes \$45.6 million for economic recovery/resilience. While no park projects were funded in this first phase there were funds allocated to Economic Development that will benefit County Tourism. The next round of funding will be considered in May and Park projects will be proposed again in this round.

Seth shared information a number of events and ribbon cuttings

- Sept 18 at 9 am ribbon cutting for new VSA league building at Long Park
- Sept 26th at 1pm for the Occoquan Bay segment of the PHNST
- First Tee Tournament is October 11. Registration is on the Forest Greens Golf Course website
- There is a stakeholder meeting for the planned Disc Golf Course at Forest Greens at 9am on Friday the 24th. All are welcome.

A successful Arts Alive event was held at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on Sept 12.

DPRT has successfully wrapped up another summer season. We don't have the final numbers yet, but our Camps were approximately 85 to 88 percent full. Splashdown numbers are down vs. pre pandemic numbers, but Waterworks numbers were very strong and are tracking very close to pre pandemic. Waterworks success is likely in part to the new splashpad. A new attraction/thrill slide at Splashdown would likely bring a similar increase in future attendance.

Commissioners Time

Mr. Thom

Asked staff to look into a complaint about DPRT vehicles in the upper front parking lot at Hellwig; also commented on the current situation with the Greater Manassas Baseball League losing their primary facility. Mr Thom pointed out that a number of players are County, not City of Manassas,

residents. Seth responded that the League, the BOCS, Stakeholders and staff are all working together to find a solution.

Mr. Thom also commented on personal note, when a DPRT grounds staff member removed his cap to salute the funeral procession of Mr. Thom's grandmother. He was incredibly touched by this gesture.

Ms. Beyer

Visited Long Park on Saturday; Ms Beyer inquired about the outcome of the request for an adventure race at Silver Lake Park. Seth shared that DPRT will need to hold re-master plan meetings the park to gauge citizen and stakeholder interest in these types of events at Silver Lake and until such time, only passive uses will be considered. Staff has worked with the citizen to offer alternatives; Ms. Beyer offered kudos to the BMX parents who many years ago advocated so vigorously for the track at Pfitzner.

Mr. Bergman

Inquired about the feasibility of DPRT advertising opportunities for the public to attend meetings to advocate for Park Projects. Seth responded that our communications team could share the postings of the County that provide this information and the platform that citizens can use to comment on any action the BOCS is considering; Mr. Bergman commented on the high attendance at Catharpin this past weekend with many family's enjoying the park; Mr. Bergman also inquired about the status of the fields at the old Pace West Building. Seth responded that lease was terminated early due to the sale of the property and the Town of Haymarket and the County are working on a partnership to re-lease these fields from the new owner; Mr. Bergman also offered kudos to Nicole Warner for her work to promote County Businesses.

Mr. Miles

Mr. Miles will be working with Supervisor Bailey prior to the next round of ARPA funding to advocate for the parks projects.

Mr. Murphy

Thanked BMX and staff for their presentations tonight; Asked if there are opportunities to expand the School Use Agreement to include the use of High School facilities. Trey Payne is meeting with PWCS representatives next week and expanded usage will be part of the discussions

Mr. Freer

Thanked BMX, staff and fellow commissioners.

Closed Session

None.

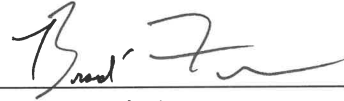
Adjournment

Res. No. 21-23

*There being no further business to come before the Commission, at 8:45 p.m., the meeting was ADJOURNED. **APPROVED (JB:CT, Unanimous).***

The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on October 20, 2021, at the Hellwig Park Administration Building.

Minutes **APPROVED** at Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on October 20, 2021.



Brodie Freer, Chairman



Seth Hendler-Voss, Director



Shannon Jaenicke, Secretary