

**FREDERICKSBURG
RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of April 15, 2021**

The April meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held electronically on April 15, 2021 by GoToMeeting pursuant to City Council ordinance 20-05, an ordinance to address continuance of City government during the tendency of pandemic disaster.

Commissioners Present: Ms. Quincy Crecelius Click, Mr. David Dorsey, Dr. Tim Duffy, Dr. Matt Eberhart, Mr. Brandon McVade, Mrs. Sharon Null, Mrs. Sue Sargeant Absent: Mr. Da Corey Carter, Mr. Eric Keeler Also in attendance: Director Jane Shelhorse, Mrs. Janice Lasker

- I. **Approval of Minutes** – The March 18, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved.
- II. **Opportunity for Public Comment** – none; Members of the public who wish to submit public comment may send their comments in writing by (1) dropping them in the Deposit Box at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, (2) U.S. Mail, (3) email to fprpf@fredericksburgva.gov. Comments must be received at least four hours in advance of the meeting – so, for example, by 2:30p.m. for a 6:30p.m. meeting.
- III. **Communications from the Director** –
- IV. **Department Update** – Financial revenue is at \$120k compared to \$200K at this time in previous years. Spring sports and camp registrations account for most of the revenue. Motts Reservoir is up and running after several repairs were made. As in past years, Motts is open from 7am to 7pm Thursday thru Monday beginning April 1 and thru October 31. The Department has purchased a mobile van with the help of a grant from T-Mobile. The van will be driven to neighborhoods for programs, and will be at some of our events. Director Shelhorse will send the commissioners a picture of the van. We have signed a contract for lifeguards for the pool; however, we do need instructors to teach swim lessons. We are holding a week long virtual Earth Day this week, culminating with a concert and a movie this weekend at Old Mill Park. Eagle Scouts are installing benches and stick racks at the hockey rink. Commissioner Null asked if the City was participating in the tulip program that draws tourists to the parks. Director Shelhorse noted that the Department is working on a plan for next spring, but does not have a plan in place for this

year. Commissioner Dorsey suggested contacting Bloomeria in King George County. Commissioner McVade added that there are 73 kids registered for hockey this season, and all coaching and volunteer positions have been filled.

V. Old Business:

- A. Riverfront Park** – Doug Fawcett will give us a timeline before the May meeting. Planting is currently underway, and the Rappahannock Rotary is giving the City money for limestone benches that will be installed in the park along with a brief history of the stone.
- B. Strategic Plan for Parks** – Director Shelhorse noted that Lose Consulting is still working on items that we wanted changed in the plan.

VI. New Business:

- A. In-person meetings**- Kathleen Dooley is working on guidelines for in-person meetings to be shared at the May meeting. Director Shelhorse asked the commissioners for their thoughts on resuming in-person meetings. Dr. Duffy finds the virtual meetings easier to attend, and no one else expressed an opinion.
- B. Vacancies on Commission** – Commissioners Carter and Sargeant’s terms are up at the end of June. They are both eligible for another term if they desire.
- C. Special Projects – Snowden Garden** – The Department is working with both UMW and Downtown Greens on the plans for development and use of a new community garden to be located at Snowden Park. **Cossey Park** – A Community Cleanup day was held at Cossey Park, and discussions are underway about possibly adding a **Memorial Walkway** to Cossey Park. **The Kiwanis** will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2022 and may be interested in some sort of contribution to Cossey Park as a way to mark the anniversary.

Director Shelhorse asked Commissioner Dorsey to update the commission on what Face the River has been working on this year. Commissioner Dorsey shared that he and Tom Smith have been working alongside Public Works to clear the banks on both sides of Riverfront Park. The group, which is part of Main Street, is hoping to take advantage of the stone that is currently on site for the Chatham Bridge construction. Rather than have the construction company remove the stone, Face the River would like to have it moved to shore up the river banks, creating a bankside trail between Riverfront Park and the Tapa Rio restaurant. The City is hoping to do something similar when the I-95 bridge project is complete to create what will be known as Wild Riverfront Park.


Directors/Commission Concerns and Topics –

Commissioner Duffy mentioned that the City and City schools are looking into bringing turf to Maury field. Included in the plan would be better field accessibility, updated stands, and better lighting. Once complete, the field would be a resource for Parks and Recreation.

Commissioner Dorsey mentioned the need for safety stations to be placed at Riverfront Park once construction is complete and the park is open to the public.

Commissioner Duffy asked about the Midnight Madness program and noted that Commissioner Eberhart should be included in any discussion about holding the program this summer. Commissioner Eberhart is concerned that under the current governor's guidelines, the program would be considered a social event and may be difficult to bring back this year.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18p.m.


Jane C. Shelhorse **6/17/21**
Director **Date**

The next meeting will be held virtually at 6:30pm on Thursday, May 20th, 2021.

