

**FREDERICKSBURG  
RECREATION COMMISSION  
Minutes of February 15, 2018**

The February meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Commissioners Present: Mr. Brandon McVade, Dr. Tim Duffy, Mrs. Susan Tyler, Mrs. Sharon Null, Mr. David Dorsey, Mr. John Russ, Dr. Marcus Tepaske, Mrs. Sue Sargeant Absent: Mr. James Bailey Also in attendance: Director Jane Shelhorse, Mrs. Janice Lasker,

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of January 18, 2018 were unanimously approved.
- II. **Public Comment – none**
- III. **Introduction of Department Staff – none**
- IV. **Communications from Director:**
  - A. **Financial Report – January 2018 –** Director Shelhorse reviewed the financial reports and stated that Revenue are up. Expenditures are also up primarily because the department purchased a new vehicle. We sold the Windstar which the department had owned for 20 plus years. Budgeted expenditures for pool maintenance are up due to the age of the pool.
  - B. **Leisure Report –** We had about 200 people attend the Father/Daughter dance. Linda Bailey has hired Alexa Harris as the new Nature Education Specialist
  - C. **Special Events –** We are working with event organizers on all of the 2018 events that are in the works. Staff busy with department sponsored events such as Picnic in the Park, the Women’s Forum and the Fine Arts Show. Director Shelhorse shared our special event fees with the commissioners.
  - D. **Sports and Parks –** We have started registration for baseball, flag football and the new Take the City adventure event. New kiosks are

getting ready to be placed along the park trails. The kiosks will replace the yard sale signs that event organizers were posting to advertise their races/walks. The gate at Memorial Park has been repaired.

- E. Director Shelhorse shared a letter from a disappointed dad regarding cancellation of the Soap Box Derby. Spotsylvania County is attempting to put the event on this year at Dominion Raceway.

- V. **Noteworthy Dates** – Director Shelhorse reviewed upcoming dates and events. We have added an early bird camp registration for City residents to be held March 19 from 6 to 9pm.

VI. **Old Business** –

- A. **Hurkamp Park Restrooms** – The project has been delayed because during Miss Utility’s second visit to the park, they marked a major power line on the designated placement site that they had not marked on their initial visit. We are waiting on new approvals, but the plan is to move the building closer to the Rescue Squad flag pole, and we hope to have the project complete by April 1.
- B. **Native Plant Garden at Cossey Park** – The public forum is to be held following the Commission meeting at 7pm. To clarify from the last Commission meeting, the Central Rappahannock Natives Campaign is the group that applied for the grant, and the garden would be maintained by the Master Gardeners with help from several partnering groups.
- C. **Foundation for Parks** – Director Shelhorse and Wendy Stone met with Teri McNally of the Community Foundation to discuss the possibility of the Community Foundation setting up and managing a Parks fund for the City. Having the Community Foundation involved would eliminate the need for us to manage the fund. Tim Barood supports the idea, but we need to get specific details before moving forward. On another note, it is in our CIP to hire a consultant to work on a strategic plan for Parks.

VII. **New Business:**

A. "Rock the Red" is a partnership with the Washington Capitals to build an inline roller hockey rink in Fredericksburg, ideally at Dixon Park. The particular location at Dixon Park was chosen due to its accessibility to the parking lot. The Capitals would provide the rink through a community grant, and we would be responsible for clearing the area and providing the asphalt pad. Our cost is estimated to be about \$125,000. We have \$83,000 in our CIP, and we would fundraise for the remaining \$50,000. Part of the Capitals' donation includes curriculum and equipment to the City's elementary and middle schools, and instruction to teachers for teaching the skills needed to play hockey. Currently, the local inline hockey league has about 50 players, and they have to travel to Warrenton to play. Commissioner Tyler expressed a concern about the weight of the rink in the event we want to consider putting a building on the site in the future. Commissioner Tepaske expressed concerns about the maintenance of the rink and would like to see some numbers before giving his support. Director McVade would like to propose that we install two rinks in that location as we would be the only two-rink facility in the state, which would make us a destination for tournament play. He has all the walls for another rink that he received when Golden Skate World closed its doors. Economic Development is very interested in growing Sports tourism in the City. On February 27, the proposal to pursue the project is going to City Council during a work session.

#### **VIII. Directors/Commission Concerns and Topics**

Commissioners Null and Tyler expressed concerns about the native plant garden and wanted to make sure that these concerns were brought up at the public forum. Primary concerns are ongoing watering and maintenance, who will give approval to proceed if we receive the grant, and the possible reduction of extension agents by VA Tech. Director Shelhorse stated that we would be recording the meeting so that we can refer to the discussion at later dates if the need arises.

Commissioner Dorsey mentioned a concern for pedestrians on the Jenny Guth property. He suggested putting up signs that bicyclists have the right of way. Director Shelhorse stated that this property is not technically open to the public, so cyclists and walkers should not really

be on the trails, but she would check with staff as to who developed the trails on the property.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Jane C. Shelhorse 3/15/18  
Jane C. Shelhorse Date  
Director

**Next Meeting March 15, 2018 6:30pm at the Dorothy Hart Community Center**