

**FREDERICKSBURG
RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of June 21, 2018**

The June meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at the Dorothy Hart Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Commissioners Present: Mr. Brandon McVade, Mrs. Susan Tyler, Mrs. Sharon Null, Mr. David Dorsey, Dr. John Russ, Mrs. Sue Sargeant, Mr. James Bailey, Dr. Marcus Tepaske Absent: Dr. Tim Duffy Also in attendance: Director Jane Shelhorse, Mrs. Janice Lasker In attendance with no comments made: Anne Little

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of May 17, 2018 were unanimously approved with corrections.
- II. **Public Comment** – none
- III. **Introduction of Department Staff** – William “Bill” Mitchell was introduced to the commission. Bill, who grew up in the Fredericksburg area and has participated in most of the City’s sports programs, has worked as a part time intern with the Department for the past five years. After graduating from Randolph Macon College this month, he joined the Department as our full time Sports and Fitness Supervisor. Bill brings knowledge, energy and enthusiasm to the position. He will be running the sports leagues and eventually will help Jillian Franklin with the sports camps.
- IV. **Communications from Director:**
 - A. **Financial Report** – May 2018 – Expenditures are up overall due to purchasing a car last fall, but we have exceeded revenue. Weather has impacted our programs and the pool required extra maintenance.
 - B. **Leisure Report** – In spite of bad weather, we had 180 kids for the fishing derby. We have 16 camps during the 12 weeks of summer.
 - C. **Special Events-** Huber will sponsor the Christmas Parade, which is 25% full.

- D. Sports and Parks-** Fall soccer and field hockey are starting two weeks earlier than usual due to the early start of Spotsylvania schools. Midnight Madness begins Friday. We had flooding in Old Mill Park when the river reached 14 feet. Effective July 1, the Department will take on some of the responsibilities of the Clean and Green Commission. In addition to starting a litter campaign, the Department will take over the doggy bag and ashtray programs.
- E.** Cameron John has been appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission, replacing Susan Tyler.
- F.** Director Shelhorse shared thank you letters from two groups who benefitted from Department maintenance/programs.

V. Noteworthy Dates – Director Shelhorse reviewed upcoming dates and events.

VI. Old Business –

- A. Hurkamp Park Restrooms –** We have found a way to get the utilities done. The building should be set Thursday, June 28 with the goal of completion by July 4.
- B. Healing Grove-** Director Shelhorse shared the results of feedback from posting the proposal on our website. There were 80 responses in support and 6 against the proposal. Main concerns were that the playing field would be reduced and activity in the park would be a distraction for people meditating. One person suggested that Cossey Park might be a better location. Cossey was not considered in the original proposal as it was under consideration for the Native Plant Garden project. Due to the increased popularity of Memorial Park and pickleball, we may need to increase parking in the future, and Cossey Park would be an option to fill that need. After reviewing public feedback, the Commission endorsed the concept for the Healing Grove for Memorial Park.
- C. Foundation for Parks --** The purpose of the fund will be to include access to better recreation and healthier lifestyles. Director Shelhorse has not sent anything to the Community Foundation.
- D. Rock the Red –**The MOU has been sent to the City Manager, and we are waiting on a signature from the Capitals. Site plan is to be reviewed on June 26, 2018 and then the permit process can begin.

E. The 12 foot tennis practice wall is in the process of being built in Memorial Park. Twelve feet is standard when a basketball hoop is on one side. The entrance areas to Memorial Park will be improved and the landscaping enhanced near the brick sign.

VII. New Business:

A. Summer Meeting – We will meet on July 19; August meeting TBD.

B. Awards Banquet – Director Shelhorse asked if we should continue the same format for the annual volunteer banquet due to the cost, time involved and lack of attendance. The Commissioners agreed that a stand up reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres would allow people to mingle. Commissioner Tepaske suggested varying levels of Challenge Coins as a recognition gift for the volunteers.

VIII. Directors/Commission Concerns and Topics –Director Shelhorse thanked Commissioner Tyler for her many years of service on the Commission. She shared that the Department will be revamping our website, and we will be getting a new software program since we are not happy with the current one.

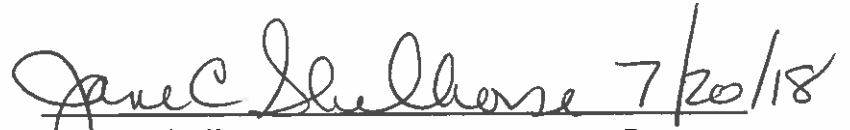
Dr. Tepaske asked if we would have signs and logos before he completes his term on the Commission. The branding committee has been meeting so the process for a logo is in place.

Commissioner Sargeant attended the fishing derby and shared comments she overheard. People would like designated areas for smokers during the tournament. She shared suggestions for some teaching moments that would be more appealing solutions than dumping the dead fish in the water after the tournament.

Commissioner Tyler shared that she has enjoyed being a part of the Commission and will continue to walk and report her concerns to the Director.

Director Shelhorse concluded that the Department is working on a strategic plan for events with Main Street. The purpose is to determine the type and timing of events people want since the City is receiving an increasing number of requests for special events.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.


Jane C. Shelhorse **Date**
Director

Next Meeting July 19, 2018 6:30pm at the Dorothy Hart Community Center