

**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2017**  
**Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center**

The regular monthly meeting of the Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Community Activities Center. Vice Chair Ritchie Vaughan called the meeting to order with the following commission members present: John Marr, Joseph Riley, Deanna Reed, Brent Holsinger, Chance Ebersold and Chris Pipkin. Also present were Luanne Santangelo and Connie Lawson from Parks and Recreation and Bucky and Brent Berry. Absent was commission member Joshua Humphries.

1. Welcome- Vice Chair Ritchie Vaughan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. Introduction of new Commission members- New commission member Chance Ebersold was introduced to the other members of the Commission.
3. Election of new officers- Chris Pipkins nominated John Marr as the new Chair and John Marr nominated Ritchie Vaughan as the Vice Chair. Both nominations were approved by a unanimous vote.
4. Approval of the October 17 and November 21, 2016 minutes- Chris Pipkins motioned to approve the October minutes, seconded by Ritchie Vaughan. Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote. Brent Holsinger motioned to approve the November minutes, seconded by Deanna Reed. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
5. Presentation by Bucky Berry- Bucky Berry discussed the Salvation Army Food Drive work he and his son have done since 2010 and a possible citywide backpack program to send kids home with food for the weekend. Requested the renaming of Morrison Park as the Brent Berry Park in recognition of all the work he and his son have done for the city. Commission voted to table topic until research could be done on policies and procedures involved with the renaming of a facility.
6. Role of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission- Luanne Santangelo discussed possible changes to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Ordinance using The Environmental Performance Standard Advisory Committee and The Transportation Safety and Advisory Commission Bi-Laws as reference. Suggested completely striking Section 9-1-5 and replacing with a section more geared to the purpose of the Commission. The Commission was also encouraged to participate in more of the special events and programs offered. Ritchie Vaughan suggested stating in the Ordinance all responsibilities of Commission members. Luanne will make a draft of the new Ordinance for the next Commission meeting. Any changes would then be sent to the City Council for discussion, approval and amending.
7. Comments, questions from Commissioners- Ritchie Vaughan had questions about new trails which will be answered at the February meeting with a presentation by Erin Yancey regarding the Bike/Ped Master Plan. Construction of the Disc Golf Course at Ramblewood Park has been halted due to its proximity to the Shooting Range and safety concerns. Alternate locations were suggested and are being considered. Luanne Santangelo informed the Commission that bids that have come in for renovations at the Price Rotary Senior Center were too high and that more funding is needed before they can proceed. Also requested some of the Commission members to attend the Your City Your Plan meetings.
8. Meeting Adjourned at 8:17pm.

**The next Commission meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center.**