

**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2017**  
**Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center**

The regular monthly meeting of the Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Community Activities Center. Chair John Marr called the meeting to order with the following commission members present: Joseph Riley, Kevin Gibson, Ritchie Vaughan and Deanna Reed. Absent were commission members: Brent Holsinger, Chance Ebersold and Joshua Humphries. Present from Parks and Recreation: Luanne Santangelo, Brittany Clem, Jeremy Harold and Connie Lawson. Observing the meeting was Kelly Hartsell, Steve Horn, Linda Landes and Tyler Carnihan from the tennis community.

1. Meeting Called to Order- Chair John Marr called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. Approval of August 21, 2017 meeting minutes- Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
3. Adopt A Park Presentation- Jeremy Harold discussed the Adopt A Park Program created by 5 students from the HHS Service Learning Program. Program would include community volunteer involvement in trash clean up at local parks. Volunteers would use the city website to access the application for adopting a listed project or an area of a city park. Volunteers would need to commit to coming out at least once a month and methods of recognition for volunteers is being discussed.
4. Discussion of Pickleball lines on Tennis Courts-Luanne Santangelo discussed the placement of Pickleball lines on two of the tennis courts at Eastover Park to allow Pickleball players access to a lighted outdoor facility. Several members of the tennis community were present to voice their concerns on the subject. Kelly Hartsell, presented a spreadsheet detailing use of all tennis facilities by both tennis and pickleball players, he felt that the bright yellow pickleball lines on courts made playing tennis difficult and felt that adding pickleball lines to the Eastover Courts would have an adverse effect on the tennis community. Steve Horn felt that since pickleball players already have access to an indoor facility that Eastover should remain a tennis only site. Linda Landes proposed that lights be placed at Morrison Park tennis courts since pickleball lines have already been painted there and voiced concern over the effect that pickleball lines would have on tennis tournaments held at Eastover. Luanne Santangelo explained the loss of access to the National Guard Armory and how that is affecting a multitude of programs that now need space at the CAC which in turn will affect the amount of time available for indoor pickleball play. She also stated that the indoor picklball program would be fee-based, no longer free to participants. That painting lines on a couple of the courts at Eastover would give pickleball players access to another place to play. She also pointed out that at this time funding for lighting at Morrison Park is not available. After much discussion, Ritchie Vaughan made the motion to repaint the lines at Morrison Park a lighter color. Joseph Riley seconded this motion and motion was approved with unanimous vote. Ritchie Vaughan made a second motion to paint only one tennis court at Eastover with the lighter pickleball lines. Deanna Reed seconded this motion and the motion was approved with a unanimous vote with the stipulation from Joseph Riley that this issue will be revisited at a later date.
5. News and Highlights from Parks and Recreation- Brittany Clem presented an overview of the monthly reports.
6. Comments, questions from Commissioners- Luanne Santangelo requested that the PRAC meet earlier next month at Purcell Park to discuss CIP projects including work to the playground. The PRAC would then finish the meeting at the CAC afterwards.
7. Meeting Adjourned at 9pm.

**The next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2017 at 6:30pm at Purcell Park and then meeting will continue at the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center.**