

Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2017
Purcell Park/Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Monday, October 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Purcell Park the meeting then convened at the Community Activities Center. Chair John Marr called the meeting to order with the following commission members present: Joseph Riley, Kevin Gibson, Ritchie Vaughan, Chance Ebersold and Joshua Humphries. Absent were commission members: Brent Holsinger and Deanna Reed. Present from Parks and Recreation: Luanne Santangelo, Brittany Clem, Ed Steele, Jeremy Harold, Matt Muterspaugh and Connie Lawson.

1. Tour of Purcell Park- Ed Steele discussed the safety issues present at Kid's Castle Playground and stressed the need for a new playground structure.
2. Return to Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activity Center
3. Meeting Called to Order-Chair John Marr called the meeting to order at 7:10pm
4. Approval of September 18, 2017 meeting minutes- Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
5. Discussion of CIP Projects- Luanne Santangelo discussed the top 5 CIP Projects on the Parks list: 1) Purcell Park. The current playground has lasted 7 years past the manufacturers 20 year lifespan, but has numerous safety issues including entrapment hazards, splintering wood, visibility issues and surfacing that is not up to standards. Luanne would like to involve the community in the planning of a new playground and other amenities at the park. Looking at a \$400,000 starting cost for a new playground with possible funding from grants. 2) Park Accessibility. Would like to make all the parks ADA Accessible. 3) The Heritage Oaks water supply. Hire a consultant and work with the Water Utility to find the best solution to the water supply issues. 4) Park Maintenance and Urban Forestry Equipment. Replacement of outdated and unsafe equipment that is being used by the Maintenance Department. 5) Administration Office Renovation. Updating and renovation of the administrative office to provide a more secure and professional work environment.
6. News and Highlights from Parks and Recreation- Brittany Clem presented an overview of the monthly reports.
7. Comments, questions from Commissioners- Luanne Santangelo reminded commissioners that the next meeting will be the last for the year.
8. Meeting Adjourned at 8:05pm.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center.