

Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2018
Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Community Activities Center. The meeting was called to order with the following commission members present: Kevin Gibson, Chance Ebersold, Brent Holsinger, Jim Logan, Dan Martonik and Deanna Reed. Absent were commission members: Joshua Humphries and Joseph Riley. Present from Parks and Recreation: Luanne Santangelo, Brittany Clem, Jeremy Harold, Erik Dart and Connie Lawson. Also in attendance: Kelley Junco, Eddie Bumbaugh, Adam Steiniger and Randy Seitz.

1. Meeting Called to Order-The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.
2. Introduction of New Commission Members-New Commission members Jim Logan and Dan Martonik were introduced and welcomed to the commission.
3. Election of Officers- Deanna Reed nominated Kevin Gibson as the new chair, seconded by Chance Ebersold. Brent Holsinger nominated Joshua Humphries as the new vice-chair, seconded by Deanna Reed. Both nominations were unanimously approved.
4. Approval of November 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes- Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.
5. Presentations- a) Kelley Junco, Public Works Environmental Compliance Manager, gave a brief overview of the Stormwater Improvement Plan. Water quality projects being proposed for the Heritage Oaks Golf Course and local parks were discussed.

b) Downtown Park, Eddie Bumbaugh, President of Build Our Park, gave a brief overview of the history of the drive for a downtown park. Adam Steiniger, HDR Design Committee member, presented the new conceptual park plans and Randy Seitz, HDR Design Committee member, discussed the revised cost estimates for the Downtown park. Representatives of the BOP Board asked the PRAC for their support of the new plan. When questioned how a new park would fit into the current priorities of the department, Luanne Santangelo stated that while she supported the conceptual designs of a new Downtown park that existing park needs would have priority.

After much discussion Brent Holsinger motioned to: Support the conceptual design of the Downtown Park as presented by the Build Our Park Board and encourage them to move forward with their proposal and formally present to the City Council. Dan Martonik seconded and motion was unanimously approved.
6. News and Highlights from Parks and Recreation- Brittany Clem briefly discussed the January Commission report. Highlighting the Strong & Fit Grant from the National Recreation and Park Association. This will allow us to expand our package of programs offered to seniors by partnering with VPAS to receive training for programs that help with arthritis and joint pain. Heritage Oaks is still looking for a new Golf Course restaurant tenant. Urban Wood Utilization project, partnering with the Department of Forestry to use wood from trees lost to emerald ash borers for projects within the city. Jeremy Harold stated that this would help to keep this wood out of the landfills. A free documentary on this project will be presented at Court Square Theatre on April 5, from 6-8pm. Upcoming events: Mother/Son Superhero Party, Daddy/Daughter Dance, February Black History Month, Shamrock 5K and Pot of Gold Kids Fun Run and the International Festival, which will move out of Hillandale Park to the downtown area.
7. Question & Comments from Commissioners- Luanne Santangelo stated that the bid is out for the resurfacing of the pool, bids are due back on February 15, 2018. The plan is to start the project in March. The pool would be closed until the end of May/beginning of June. Also approved moving the February 19 meeting to February 26 because of President's Day.
8. Adjourn-Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center.