



**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2020  
Lucy F. Simms Continuing Education Center**

The regular monthly meeting of Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Monday, February 24, 2020 p.m. in the Lucy F. Simms Continuing Education Center. Kevin Gibson called the meeting to order with the following commission members present: Sandra Bopp, Chance Ebersold, MuAwia DaMes, Obie Hill, James Logan, Daniel Martonik and Deanna Reed. Present from Parks and Recreation: Gin Chandler, Brittany Clem, Erik Dart, Scott Erickson, Matt Little, Brian Mancini, AJ Morris and Luanne Santangelo.

- I. Welcome – Kevin Gibson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. January Meeting Minutes – Obie Hill made a motion to approve the minutes from January 27, 2019. The motion was seconded. All members voted in favor of approving the January 27, 2019 minutes.
- III. Public Hearing Heritage Oaks Golf Course – the following community members spoke. The Advisory Commission allotted three minutes for speaking. The following individuals presented testimony:
  - a. Larry Haaland, 571 Myers Avenue
  - b. Joseph Kudless, 1341 Cumberland Drive
  - c. Janet Wigglesworth, 777 Circle Drive
  - d. David Smith, 942 Northfield Court
  - e. William Bayer, 1721 Heritage Estates Circle
  - f. Danny Fleming, 474 Myers Avenue
  - g. Elmer Kennel, 4214 Fort Lynn Road
  - h. Ken Knight, 1038 Stuart Street
  - i. Michael Johnson, Linville, VA (nonresident)
  - j. Glenn Hodge, 70 Clearview Drive (nonresident)
  - k. Debbie Boyle, 91 Maplehurst Avenue
  - l. John Hall, 1740 Sherry Lane
  - m. Maryanne Kennel, 4214 Fort Lynn Road
  - n. Tom Hoy, 636 Sunrise Avenue
  - o. Beth Elyard, Belmont Estates (nonresident)

Sandy Bopp, MuAwia DaMes, Deanna Reed and Obie Hill discussed the goal of increasing revenue, decreasing expenditures and keeping the conversation going and obtaining information.

- IV. Process for Public Hearing/Public Comment – Luanne researched the process other Parks and Recreation Commissions may have in place for public hearing and public comment. Her research found Advisory Commissions do not have a process due to lack of attendance and interest. The Commission decided to keep the process informal and not include in the by-laws.
- V. Director's Report –
  - a. Heritage Oaks Golf Course is closed for two weeks to reorganize and update the facility. Several staff members have relocated to work from the golf course. The course will reopen on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. The Job Fair is February 25<sup>th</sup> at Simms from 3-8pm. There are seasonal and summer positions available.
  - c. The pickleball court final design is being completed, and a meeting has been held with the contractor. There will be four courts and bleachers.
  - d. Purcell Park Master Plan concept design may be presented in March to the Advisory Commission and from there it will go to City Council.
- VI. Event Attendance/Advocacy Opportunities:
  - a. No events are scheduled until the run in April.
  - b. Sandy Bopp attended the Black History event and commented there were over 100 in attendance.
  - c. Deanna Reed commented in favor of Simms being open on Sundays for special events.
  - d. Obie Hill attended the Sweetheart Dance.
  - e. Daniel Martonik rented a room at the CAC and commented how wonderful the staff was to work with and he had a good experience.
- VII. Public Comment
  - a. Karen Thomas, NE Neighborhood Association, requested opening the Simms building on Sundays.
  - b. Jane (last name unknown), 1290 Virginia Avenue, commented on the condition of the dog park and requested more resources be spent to improve the condition.
- VIII. March 16, 2020 is the next meeting date.
- IX. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

**The next Commission Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Lucy F. Simms Center.**

Respectively submitted,  
Gin Chandler  
Parks and Recreation Administrative Services Manger