



**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2020  
GoTo Meeting**

A meeting of Harrisonburg Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission was held on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7 p.m. via GoToMeeting. Kevin Gibson called the meeting to order with the following commission members present: Sandra Bopp, MuAwia DaMes, Chance Ebersold, Kevin Gibson, Obie Hill, and James Logan. Present from Parks and Recreation: Gin Chandler and Luanne Santangelo.

- I. Welcome – Kevin Gibson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. August Meeting Minutes – Obie Hill made a motion to approve the minutes from August 17, 2020. Jim Logan seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of approving the August 17, 2020 minutes.
- III. Director's Report – Luanne Santangelo provided a written report to Advisory Commission members.
  - a. Reopening of fitness centers had 201 reservations at CAC and 31 Simms. Renovations were made in the fitness centers to accommodate social distancing and provide a safe environment for users.
  - b. Swim teams have returned to the pool for usage. Operations has transitioned to the doom pool.
  - c. Race to Beat Breast Cancer and the International Festival will be virtual this year.
  - d. Planning for the 2021 VRPS conference is still taking place. The conference is scheduled for October.
  - e. Athletics is taking reservations for use of some fields for practicing. Teams can submit an application request and their plan for following safety guidelines. Youth football, tackle and flag football, and adult kickball was cancelled this year.
  - f. Presentation of the Purcell Park Master Plan to City Council will take place in October.
  - g. Continuous evaluations take place to determine reopening and scheduling of use for various facilities.
  - h. Heritage Oaks Golf Course financial comparison will be provided to Commission members by Luanne Santangelo. Walking is still permitted at

Heritage Oaks before 8a and after 8p. All parks, including Heritage Oaks, will close at 5p when the time change occurs.

- IV. Event Attendance/Advocacy Opportunities –
  - a. The Race to Beat Breast Cancer Run will be a virtual run and is scheduled in October.
  - b. Commission members may assist in spreading the word of the fitness centers availability to the community.
  - c. Fall and holiday events will be announced on social media.
  - d. Luanne Santangelo recognized Bill Rule's retirement. Bill retired at the end of August with 34 years of service with Parks and Recreation. His legacy will live forever in this community.
  - e. Kevin Gibson shared Dan Martonick is not able to attend the current scheduled time meetings due to a conflict with his work schedule. Discussion was held regarding Dan's availability and other options for his continuous service on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.
  - f. Discussion was held regarding elections for a Chair and Vice Chair of the Advisory Commission. The election cycle was missed. It was decided to proceed with roles as they currently are, and an election will take place in January 2021.
  - g. Park bathrooms will remain closed through the season.
  - h. The Capital Improvement Plan will be presented to the Advisory Commission in the October meeting.
  - i. Currently working on a CDBG grant to put in an accessible route to the pickleball courts. It is under environmental review now.
- V. General Public Comments – Comments were not received.
- VI. Next PRAC Meeting – October 19, 2020.
- VII. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectively submitted,  
Gin Chandler  
Parks and Recreation Administrative Services Manger