

**Minutes
Parks & Recreation Committee
May 8, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
Manassas Museum – Multi-Purpose Room**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Lawrence Smith at 7:00 p.m.

Determination of a Quorum:

A majority of the board is present.

Parks and Recreation Committee Members in Attendance: Lynn Forkell, Mike Freeland, Robert Keller, Clara Meagher, Mark Rabatin, Lawrence Smith

Alternate Parks and Recreation Committee Members in Attendance: Paul Dresler

Parks and Recreation Committee Members Absent: Malcolm Richards, Ivan Soto, Christina VandenBosche

Alternate Parks and Recreation Committee Members Absent: None

City Council Member Liaisons: Councilwoman Michelle Davis-Younger

Museum Staff in Attendance: Kisha Wilson-Sogunro, Manager, Parks, Culture & Recreation; Liz Via-Gossmann, Director, Community Development Department; Mary Helen Dellinger, Curator

Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2019:

Bob Keller moved to approve the minutes with one correction – the date of meeting should be changed to read May 8. Mike Freeland seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairs' Comments and Announcements:

Lawrence Smith: The Greenleaf Open Space Community conversation is coming up on May 18th at 11 AM. Lillian Orlich has resigned from this committee. A vacancy announcement has been posted on the City's website.

Council Member: Councilwoman Davis-Younger had no report.

Historic Resources Board (HRB) Liaison Report:

Bob Keller reported that the HRB met the previous evening and delved into the Comprehensive Plan. He also reported back on the commemorative license plate. After talking with the City Manager, he recommends that the new plate be introduced as part of the upcoming 150th anniversary of Manassas in 2023.

Reminders:

No reminders presented.

Manager's Report:

- Kisha Wilson-Sogunro reported that she had a successful visit with the members of First Baptist Church to discuss the Dean statue. Some donations were accepted that day. A big community picnic is being planned for a TBD date in August to help fundraise for the statue.

HEAL Subcommittee Report:

No report.

New Business:

Work session: 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update – Parks, Culture and Recreation – Elizabeth Via-Gossman

- Liz gave a brief overview of comprehensive planning and where the City is with its plan. A brief review of the feedback gleaned from the Community Conversation meetings was presented.
- Thoughts about the draft of the Vision statement were discussed – it needs to be more exciting with better adjectives; less words but more bang.
- Issues raised by the community were reviewed and there was agreement that these are valid points, especially the need for better/more consistent park maintenance.
- Discussion followed on all the various amenities in the City – those held publicly and those run by private neighborhoods. The Committee would like a comprehensive list of all parks and pools to help guide the planning process.
- Discussion on undeveloped land in the City and could a central park facility that includes a pool, playground, pavilion, park, etc. be placed in such a spot?
- It was decided that committee members should be added to the list of people who get to review and comment on proposed development and/or rezoning projects in the City.
- Next steps are for the committee's feedback to be presented to the Planning Commission to be drafted into the Comprehensive Plan


Close of Business:

Lawrence Smith asked for any other business.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Mark Rabatin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Robert Keller seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.



Lawrence Smith
Chair

6/12/2018

Date