

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission
City of Chattahoochee Hills
April 19, 2016
7:00 pm

Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

Chairman Wansley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Maribeth Wansley, Diana Wilson, Kay Long, Roland Alston, and John Graham. A quorum was represented.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Agenda

Wansley requested that the agenda be amended to add the following items under Items for Consideration:

- 1. Approval to print Interpretive Trail brochures as needed*
- 2. Approval to recommend that staff use the parking fee money to print the Interpretive Trail brochures*
- 3. Improvement to security system at Cochran Mill Park*

Graham made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Approval of March 8, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes*
Alston made a motion to approve the March 8, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.
Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Items for Discussion

- 1. 2015 Recreational Trails Program Update – Diana Wilson*
Wilson reported that the City had received notification from the Georgia Department of Resources that the 2015 RTP Grant application was selected to continue forward to the next step in the grant award process. The application received the highest score in the state. The grant will be used to install a prefabricated pedestrian/bike bridge over Little Bear Creek in Cochran Mill Park, create a 4-mile sustainable trail connecting Rico Park, Cochran Mill Park, and Cochran Mill Nature Center, and maintain existing trails as needed. The next step is the Environmental Review by seven agencies.
- 2. Nomination for Coalition for Recreational Trails Achievement Awards – Diana Wilson*
Wilson said only eleven awards were given out last year for all 50 states. Winners will be announced by May 3rd and awards will be presented June 8th in Washington

DC. She said if the City wins the award, she thinks the Parks Commission members should all go to the ceremony.

3. Parking Fee Update – Maribeth Wansley

Wansley reported that the total revenue was \$5,364.59 and expenditures were \$1,019.00 since the last meeting. The available funds are \$25,918.32. There have been 248 resident and 180 non-resident decals distributed to date.

Items for Consideration

1. Approval to print Interpretive Trail brochures as needed – Diana Wilson

Allows Diana Wilson to request staff print more Interpretive Trail brochures as needed. Graham made a motion to approve the item. Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval to recommend that staff use the parking fee money to print the Interpretive Trail brochures – Maribeth Wansley

Long made a motion to approve the item. Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Improvement to security system at Cochran Mill Park – Chief Greg Brett and Chief Stoney Mathis

Chief Brett said that the current security system at Cochran Mill Park is a low budget. As the infrastructure is being installed for the pay and display kiosk, there is an opportunity to get a more capable system. Chief Mathis said they are looking at a brand new system with better technology but do not have pricing yet. Chief Brett suggested asking Ken Langley to look into the standards that are needed. Graham made a motion to recommend staff obtain quotes for a new security system. Wilson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Member Comments / Suggestions

There were no Commission member comments or suggestions.

Staff Reports

Chief Mathis said that he was looking into starting a Reserve Officer program and would utilize the Reserve Officers to work in the parks on the weekends. He also said that he has looked in to the parking citations and has discovered that they do not have a lot of teeth. He will be proposing reducing the fine and changing the parking ticket wording to include a late charge if it is not paid by a specified date. He will be sending letters to the registered owners of the vehicles on the current outstanding tickets and will hopefully be able to collect some of the outstanding fines. The consensus among the Commission members was that they support a reduction in the parking fine.

Chief Brett gave an update on the work being done by staff at the parks. At Cochran Mill Park, they have been removing rotting timbers, repairing or removing benches

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and tables, and mowing in Zack's Glade. Additional signage will be going up at and around the kiosk. The Rico Park concession stand dedication was a success. T-ball season has started and staff has been mowing and dragging the field. Mowing is being done at Hutcheson Ferry Park and fence repair will be done. The River Park is currently under a hunting lease. Mayor Reed would like to have a community event at the Beaver House soon. The MOU for the Cochran Mill Park in the Palm of Your Hand app has been forwarded to the City Attorney for review and should be on the May City Council meeting agenda. The footing has been poured for the pay and display kiosk, and delivery of the equipment is expected this week.

Adjournment

Graham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 10th day of May, 2016.

Maribeth Wansley, Chairman

Attest:

**Dana Wicher, City Clerk
(Seal)**