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Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission
City of Chattahoochee Hills
April 16, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

Diana Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Diana Wilson, Roland Alston, Clifford Blizard and Tom Blum. Kay Long was absent. A quorum was represented. Also present was Public Works/Parks Director Darold Wendlandt.

Oath of Office

City Clerk Dana Wicher administered the Oath of Office to new member Clifford Blizard.

Election of Officers

Alston nominated Wilson as Chair. Blum seconded. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Wilson as Chair was unanimous.

Wilson nominated Alston as Vice Chair. Blum seconded. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Alston as Vice Chair was unanimous.

Pledge of Allegiance

Wilson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Alston made a motion to approve the agenda. Blum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Blum made a motion to approve the March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Alston seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation

1. Rico Park T-Ball – Lila Rhyne

Ms. Rhyne gave a history of the T-Ball program. She started the program in 2009 and had 59 children participate that first year. There are 75 children participating this year. She expressed her thanks to all of the volunteers over the years and commented on how that program has brought the community together.

The City of Chattahoochee Hills Mayor and City Council encourage citizen participation in the government process. Should you by reason of a disability need a special accommodation or need accessibility information, please contact the City Clerk's office at 770-463-8881.

Items for Discussion

1. Cochran Mill Park BioBlitz, April 26th, 27th – Clifford Blizard

Blizard reported that the event on Friday, April 26th will be private and involve the Chattahoochee Hills Charter School 8th grade class. They will focus on the east side of the park. The event on Saturday, April 27th will be open to the public and will focus on the west side of the park. Both days will be led by field experts.

2. Sweep the Hooch Report – Tom Blum

Blum reported that there were 13 volunteers at the city clean-up event. They collected 75 bags of trash and 4 tires. The overall “Sweep the Hooch” event had 1,154 volunteers with 32 tons of trash and 182 tires collected.

3. Cochran Mill Park – Roland Alston

Alston reported that there was a local Boy Scout group that came to the most recent monthly trail work day. He also reported that there is a section of the orange trail that needs to be rerouted due to wash out. Volunteers will flag the reroute, and Wendlandt will inspect before work is done. Volunteers will start work again on the alternative horse trail/creek crossing in the next few weeks.

4. Campbellton Park – Diana Wilson

Wilson said she recently talked with Jeff Bishop from the Department of Natural Resources regarding the progress on the boat ramp permitting. Surveyors completed a topographic survey, and the engineer is working on the boat ramp design, which should be completed next week. Mr. Bishop estimates it will take about four months to get permits. Building season starts in August, and the hope is that permits will be issued in time for the ramp to be constructed this year.

5. Hutcheson Ferry Park Master Plan – Diana Wilson

Wilson presented the Conceptual Master Plan that was completed by the University of Georgia Landscape Architect students. The students will be presenting the plan at the City Council Work Session on May 2nd.

6. Chattahoochee Riverlands – Diana Wilson

Wilson reported that she recently attended meetings regarding the Chattahoochee River corridor study. It is expected that the master plan will result in funding that will likely come to the local area because there is more opportunity here.

7. Georgia Trail Summit, May 5-6 – Diana Wilson

Wilson reminded everyone of the upcoming Georgia Trail Summit being held in Columbus. The first day will consist of mobile workshops, and the second day will feature speakers and breakout sessions.

Items for Consideration

There were no items for consideration.

Commission Member Comments / Suggestions

Blizard said he and Mayor Reed will be attending an environmental justice symposium on April 21st.

Blum gave an update on the City of Woodstock community meeting that he attended. He said the Woodstock paid a consulting firm \$100,000 for their park master plan. The consultants spoke about the amount of work it takes to build paved trails and included a lot of innovative ideas from other parks in their presentation.

Wilson announced that the Georgia Conservancy will be hosting several fundraising trips, including an Etowah River paddle trip on July 13th, a hike at Arabia Mountain on July 27th, and a Cloudland Canyon trip August 2nd – 4th. She also said the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper “Relay Down the Hooch” should be coming through Chattahoochee Hills sometime in July.

Staff Reports

1. Parking Fee Update – Dana Wicher

Wicher reported total parking fee revenue for the fiscal year to date is \$53,560. Parks activity fees were \$185 for pavilion rentals and \$382 for primitive camping. There have been 387 resident and 317 non-resident 2019 parking decals distributed.

2. Darold Wendlandt

Wendlandt reported that ball season is off to a successful start. Staff has also installed the posts near the concession stand to keep cars off of the septic tank. He also has received several compliments on the primitive camping spots at Cochran Mill Park.

Adjournment

Blizard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Blum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 14th day of May, 2019.

Diana Wilson, Chair

Attest:

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