

**Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission
City of Chattahoochee Hills
May 14, 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, Kay Long, Roland Alston, Clifford Blizard and Tom Blum. All members were present. A quorum was represented. Also present was Public Works/Parks Director Darold Wendlandt.

Pledge of Allegiance

Wilson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alston made a motion to approve the April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Blum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation

There were no presentations.

Items for Discussion

1. Cochran Mill Park BioBlitz Report – Clifford Blizard

Blizard reported on the statistics of the April 26th – 27th BioBlitz event at Cochran Mill Park. There were 417 observations, 251 species, and 20 observers. Data can continue to be added to the project using the iNaturalist app. He said that he would like to see this as the beginning of systematically gathering data about the biodiversity in all of the city parks and of thinking about new ways to use the parks for environmental education purposes.

2. Cochran Mill Park – Roland Alston

Alston reported that the last trail work day was canceled due to weather. Last week, Doug and Susan Edmondson rebuilt the bridge on the green trail, and this past Sunday, volunteers cleared trees from storm damage. There is graffiti on the storage container and the concrete bridge on Upper Wooten. Alston will need some additional posts to finish installing the new signs.

Blum said he recently hiked in Cochran Mill Park and noticed some trails in low areas were deeply rutted from horses and bikes. Alston said volunteers have worked at many of the low areas attempting to aid runoff. Alston and Wendlandt said spreading sand on those areas does help. The hope is more volunteer effort will be aimed in this direction.

3. Campbellton Park – Diana Wilson

Wilson showed the presentation that she recently had given at the Georgia Trails Summit. She also reported Chattahoochee Riverkeeper has been working to get expand the Georgia Environmental Protection Division’s recreational designation during their triennial review. Thirteen miles of the river at Moore’s Bridge, Chattahoochee Bend, and McIntosh parks were changed to a recreational designation. The section of the river that is in Chattahoochee Hills is still designated for fishing, which means there are less protections. Wilson also presented a draft of engineered plans for the boat ramp. She also announced that there will be a “Shoot the Hooch” event on June 15th and Chattahoochee Riverlands public forum on June 22nd.

Items for Consideration

1. Hutcheson Ferry Park Master Plan – Diana Wilson

Wilson reported that the University of Georgia Landscape Architect students presented the Hutcheson Ferry Park Master Plan at the May 2nd City Council Work Session. Blizzard stressed the importance of protecting the granite outcrop at the park and suggested the boardwalk be built as soon as possible.

Blizard made a motion to recommend that City Council approve the Hutcheson Ferry Park Master Plan. Blum seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Member Comments / Suggestions

There were no Commission Member Comments/Suggestions.

Staff Reports

1. Parking Fee Update – Dana Wicher

Wicher reported total parking fee revenue for the fiscal year to date is \$59,997. Parks activity fees were \$260 for pavilion rentals and \$493 for primitive camping. There have been 388 resident and 318 non-resident 2019 parking decals distributed.

2. Darold Wendlandt

Wendlandt reported staff recently had to repair a water main break at Cochran Mill Park. He also said this Saturday is the last day of ball season.

Blum said he had concerns about cars parking near the newly planted tree at Rico Park. Wendlandt said staff will be building a crosstie buffer around the base to protect the tree from cars backing into it.

These minutes are provided as a convenience and service to the public, media, and staff. It is not the intent to transcribe proceedings verbatim. Any reproduction of this summary must include this notice. Public comments are noted and heard by Council, but not quoted. This is an official record of the City of Chattahoochee Hills Parks Commission Meeting proceedings.

Adjournment

Alston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 9th day of July, 2019.

Diana Wilson, Chair

Attest:

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

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.