

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission
City of Chattahoochee Hills
February 16, 2021
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, and Clifford Blizard. Kay Long joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Also present was Public Works/Parks Director Darold Wendlandt. The meeting was held via videoconference/ teleconference.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Blizard made a motion to amend the agenda to remove “MOU for Metal Detecting in Cochran Mill Park” under Items for Consideration. Alston seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Alston made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Blizard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Blizard made a motion to approve the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes. Alston seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation

There were no presentations,

Items for Consideration

1. Request for Metal Detecting in Cochran Mill Park – Ted Wansley *Removed from agenda.*

Long arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Items for Discussion

1. Eagle Scout Privet Removal Project in Cochran Mill Park – Clifford Blizard

Blizard reported that the Bear Creek Nature Center is facing the challenge of obtaining clear evidence of title to their property. The director of the Nature Center feels that any visibility beyond just being open is not wise until that issue is worked out, so unveiling of the plaques may need to be delayed. He said he would wait another week or so, and, if the issue is not resolved, he will plan for a low-key ceremony in April without the Nature Center’s participation. Alston said he heard that the Nature Center was closing their trails that connect to the park. Wendlandt answered that he and City Manager Robbie Rokovitz were meeting with the Nature Center the next day about that. Blizard asked that the Parks Commission be kept in the loop about the outcome of that discussion.

- 2. Collaborative Project Idea: Celebrating our Parks Through Art – Clifford Blizard**
Blizard said once the Nature Center resolves the property issue, he would like to establish an active partnership with them for an art in the park exhibit. He was inspired by a provincial park in British Columbia that invited artist to do artwork that was inspired by the park. He said this is a long-term project and may be a year or two out. The consensus of Commission members was that it is a good idea.
- 3. Cochran Mill Park Update – Roland Alston**
Alston reported that he and Pete Edmondson had an ad hoc clean up day this past Saturday and worked on cleaning drains and brush on the red trail. MTBA will be holding a volunteer workday on the second Saturday in March. The trails are in pretty good shape – the yellow trail is the worst. There is serious erosion on the Red Trail along Bear Creek and portions of the trail will need to be rerouted. He and Wilson are still working on the mapping/numbering system project.
- 4. Sweep the Hooch: Campbellton Park, March 27 – Diana Wilson**
Wilson said this is the fourth year that they city will participate in the Sweep the Hooch event. Since the boat ramp is open, the city can now have volunteer paddlers for the clean-up. There will be 20 spots for walkers and 20 spots for paddlers. The paddlers will start at the Campbellton Road boat ramp and take out at Campbellton Park. City Manger Robbie Rokovitz is looking into renting kayaks for volunteers who do not have one.

Commission Member Comments / Suggestions

Long said that the Parks Commission had discussed adding a pavilion at Rico Ball field in the past and she would still like to see that happen. Wilson asked if parking fee revenue could be used, and City Manager Robbie Rokovitz said Hotel Motel funds could be used. Alston asked staff to provide a budget for costs for the pavilion and picnic tables.

Wilson mentioned the new sign regarding artifacts and metal detecting at Campbellton Park and said that it was placed in a great, visible location.

Staff Reports

- 1. Parking Fee Update – Dana Wicher**
Wicher reported the total parking fee revenue for the fiscal year to date was \$86,112.50 and parks activity fees are \$620 for primitive camping. There have been 236 resident and 390 non-resident parking decals distributed to date.
- 2. Darold Wendlandt**
Wendlandt announced that the Arbor Day celebration will be held at Rico Park on February 26th at 10:00 a.m. The Georgia Arborists Association is sponsoring the event in honor of Hugh Tyer, the City Arborist and Tree Board Chair who recently passed away.

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 6:43 p.m. Blizard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved this 11th day of May, 2021.

Diana Wilson, Chair

Attest:

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

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