

**Fayette County Parks and Recreation Commission**  
Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2024

Present:

Charles McCollum – Recreation Commission Chair  
Nick Kilburg- Recreation Commission Vice-Chair  
Shirelle Hicks – Recreation Commissioner  
Kynthia Gaines- Recreation Commissioner  
Bobby Ferrell-Recreation Commissioner  
Anita Godbee – Director, Parks and Recreation

- I. Call to order: 6:32 PM
- II. Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge: Charles
- III. Public Comment: none
- IV. Minutes
  - a. July 2024: motion to approve-Shirelle, second by Nick; all in favor, one abstain.
- V. Old Business
  - a. Recreation Commission Appointments and Vacancy Updates
    - ii) Commission has filled the last vacancy, Bobby Ferrell; the term expires in 2028.
  - b. Multiuse Facility Update
    - i) Over the last month, there have been several questions and responses related to the electrical work. LOS and the Parks department will have the responses finalized this week and the project documents will be submitted to the Building Safety department.
    - ii) The Parks department has hired Jefferson Brown Griffith (JBG) to peer review the design documents for the new facility. The peer review will start after the Building Safety department completes its review. Ms. Godbee noted that a 15-day turnaround is expected for comments from JBG.
    - iii) Ms. Godbee also noted that the Parks department still intends to onboard firms for both project management and certified professional estimating.
  - c. Kiwanis Park Pickleball Court Update
    - i) The asphalt at the courts is complete and will need 28 days to cure before the surfacing is installed. The sidewalks are currently in progress and are scheduled to be poured the first of next week. The fencing is scheduled to be installed this Thursday.

- ii) Ms. Godbee reported that the Parks department is waiting to see what monies remain at the end of the project to fund the additional sound barrier between the courts and the adjacent neighborhood. Ms. Godbee also noted that the preference would be a natural sound barrier.

## VI. New Business

### a. Recreation Commission Overview

#### i) Parks and Recreation Manual

- (1) Ms. Godbee noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission Manual needs to be reviewed. Her staff updated some things such as the names of current commissioners and Parks staff. However, other items such as the maps also needed to be updated. Shirelle questioned whether some of the old or outdated information in the manual could be removed or modified. Ms. Godbee stated that some of this information is included in the manual due to the bylaws and asked that the Recreation Commission review to identify what information should be revised.

#### ii) Recreation Commission/Athletic Association Meetings

- (1) Because of the number of new Recreation Commission members, it was suggested that a “meet and greet” be set up to meet with the athletic associations; this meeting could host two associations at a time. This introductory meeting could also be required when the associations onboard a new president or vice president. This mandatory “meet and greet” will be scheduled with the athletic associations later this year.

#### iii) Parks Outreach and Public Information Sharing

- (1) Ms. Godbee noted that at the first of the year, the Parks department wanted to get an article published to highlight their programs. Publications and social media outlets could include a video on platforms such as Facebook or on the county’s website. She also noted that they would look into releasing an app similar to the Fire Department or the Sheriff’s Office.
- (2) Charles suggested that outreach to community outlets such as churches would also be a good way to inform the community about upcoming events.

### b. Facility Tour Dates

- i) Ms. Godbee recommended that the Recreation Commission tour some of the existing parks and facilities to assess their needs. As a group, the Recreation Commission will target the October meeting’s time slot to walk some of the facilities.

## VII. Staff Reports

### a. New Hires

- i) As of July, Daniel Alexis started as the new Athletic Director for the Parks department.
- ii) The Parks department was also able to contract with one high school intern under the Fayette County School System’s Work-Based Learning program. This employee will be working with the department all year.

- b. Ms. Godbee reported that as crews were working on a repair to the irrigation system, armyworms were found on the sports fields. However, the fields were immediately sprayed and treated to mitigate the infestation.
- c. Ms. Godbee also reported that fall sports (football, softball, and soccer) have started for the season.
- d. Future McDonough Rd. park
  - i) This new park will be considered a “passive” park.
  - ii) Ms. Godbee reported that the road and parking lot layout was starting to be considered for the future park. The intent is for the park to have an entry/exit point that is independent of the streets from the adjacent neighborhood.
  - iii) Potential park amenities may include a fishing pier off the existing lake, walking trails, a small pavilion, and a nature center.

VIII. Board Reports: none.

IX. Adjournment: Motion- Charles, Second – Shirelle, all in favor 7:45 pm

**Next Meeting – September 10, 2024, at 6:30 PM**