

AT A WORKSESSION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA, HELD IN THE COURTHOUSE, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-EIGHT.

A. ROLL CALL

Mr. Jack D. Edwards, Chairman, Berkeley District
Mr. Stewart U. Taylor, Vice-Chairman, Stonehouse District
Mr. John E. Donaldson, Jamestown District
Mr. Abram Frink, Jr., Roberts District (Absent)
Mr. David W. Ware, Jr., Powhatan District

Mr. James B. Oliver, Jr., County Administrator
Mr. John W. Watkins, Assistant County Administrator
Mr. William C. Porter, Jr., Planning Director
Mr. Michael E. Tompkins, Planning Technician

B. RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

The purpose of the worksession was to present the members of the Board of Supervisors with the following progress report of the Recreation Advisory Committee.

Mr. Oliver, County Administrator, introduced Mr. Harry Knight, Chairman of the Recreation Advisory Committee. Mr. Knight introduced the committee members present to the members of the Board.

Mr. Harry Knight and Mr. Michael Tompkins, Planning Technician, made the presentation.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

THE JAMES CITY COUNTY RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WAS FORMED IN LATE JULY, 1977. THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE WAS TO THOROUGHLY RESEARCH THE SUBJECT OF RECREATION PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES AND RECOMMEND A SERIES OF POLICIES AND ACTIONS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THROUGH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION. THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF 9 MEMBERS PLUS ONE EX-OFFICIO MEMBER. MR. HARRY KNIGHT, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER, BUSCH SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

ALMOST FROM THE BEGINNING, THE COMMITTEE SAW ITS MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY AS BEING TO DETERMINE HOW A RECREATION PROGRAM FOR JAMES CITY COUNTY RESIDENTS SHOULD OPERATE. THE COMMITTEE ADDRESSED THEMSELVES TO THE QUESTION: "WHAT IS THE BEST METHOD OF OPERATION THAT WILL ADEQUATELY SERVE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY WITH THE LEAST OUTPUT OF TAX DOLLARS, I.E., WORKING JOINTLY WITH THE CITY, A PARK AUTHORITY ARRANGEMENT OR WORKING AS AN INDEPENDENT COUNTY DEPARTMENT.

TO AID THE COMMITTEE IN FORMING THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO THE METHOD OF OPERATION AND OTHER TOPICS, A NUMBER OF ASPECTS DEALING WITH RECREATION WERE STUDIED. I WILL GIVE A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF EACH.

INVENTORY OF EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

THIS INVENTORY CONSISTED OF A LISTING OF ALL PUBLIC RECREATION SITES IN THE COUNTY. THE LISTING GIVES THEIR LOCATION, ACREAGE, AND WHAT FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT EACH SITE. ACCOMPANYING THIS INVENTORY IS A BREAKDOWN OF TOTALS AND PERCENTAGES OF THOSE COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE CITY RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS AS COMPARED TO THE RESIDENTS OF WILLIAMSBURG. THE FIGURES SHOWED THAT COUNTY RESIDENTS MADE UP APPROXIMATELY 42% OF THE TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN CITY PROGRAMS IN 1971 INCREASING TO 51% IN 1977, HOWEVER, ON A PER CAPITA BASIS COUNTY RESIDENTS PAY ABOUT 62% LESS THAN CITY RESIDENTS.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA MAPS

THE FOLLOWING DATA MAPS WERE PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE IN FAMILIARIZING THEM WITH THE COUNTY AND THE RATE OF DEVELOPMENT FROM 1970 TO 2000.

- 1) POPULATION PROJECTION BY TRAFFIC ZONES: THIS MAP SHOWS POPULATION FIGURES BY TRAFFIC ZONES IN 1970, 1976 AND PROPOSED FOR THE YEAR 2000.
- 2) STUDENT DISTRIBUTION BY ZONE OR RESIDENCE: THIS MAP BREAKS DOWN THE NUMBER OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN THAT RESIDE IN EACH TRAFFIC ZONE IN THE COUNTY. IT PRESENTS 1970 DATA AND PROJECTED FIGURES TO THE YEAR 2000 (EXISTING DATA WAS NOT AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD).
- 3) POPULATION DISTRIBUTION: THIS MAP SHOWS THE ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN THE COUNTY WHICH GIVES THE VIEWER SOME IDEA WHERE DENSELY POPULATED AREAS EXIST.

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- 4) EXISTING RECREATIONS FACILITIES: THIS MAP SIMPLY SHOWS THE LOCATION OF PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

RECREATION SURVEY

IN DECEMBER 1977 A RECREATION SURVEY WAS MAILED TO SOME 5800 COUNTY RESIDENTS. THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED A REPLY OF 743 OR 12.8% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SURVEYS SENT OUT.

IN SUMMARY 65.4% OF THE RESPONDENTS FELT THAT THEIR RECREATIONAL NEEDS WERE BEING MET BY THE EXISTING PROGRAM EITHER ON A LIMITED BASIS OR NOT AT ALL. THE SURVEY ALSO ADDRESSED PREFERRED DISTANCE OF TRAVEL TO A FACILITY, TYPES OF FACILITIES PREFERRED, RATE OF PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC, PRIVATE OR NO PROGRAMS, AND WHAT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT THE RESPONDENT RESIDES.

THE SURVEY HELPED PROVIDE A BASE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE SOME OF THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS.

RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS

THIS ANALYSIS WAS A PLANNING EXERCISE, PREPARED BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, TO SHOW THE COMMITTEE ONE OF THE MANY PROCEDURES THAT MAY BE USED TO DETERMINE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO SERVE A GROWING COUNTY POPULATION.

WILLIAMSBURG DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION BUDGET FY '77-78

THIS REPORT BREAKS DOWN THE TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO OPERATE THE EXISTING RECREATIONAL PROGRAM BY THE CITY. IT FURTHER SHOWS THE COUNTY'S SHARE COMPARED TO THE CITY'S SHARE OF THE BUDGET AND THE PERCENTAGES OF THE COUNTY'S SHARE IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES.

JAMES CITY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED BY THE STATE COMMISSION OF OUTDOOR

RECREATION. IN ITS CONCLUSION, THE REPORT PROVIDES A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH WILL AID THE COUNTY IN PROVIDING INCREASED LEISURE SERVICES TO ITS RESIDENTS. THIS REPORT WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE IN JANUARY FOR REVIEW AND IT IS FROM THIS REPORT AND THE AFOREMENTIONED DATA THAT THE COMMITTEE BASED ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS ARE PRESENTED FOR REVIEW TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN CARE OF MR. JAMES B. OLIVER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

- 1) IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT JAMES CITY COUNTY CONTINUE TO WORK JOINTLY WITH THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG IN PROVIDING RECREATIONAL SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF BOTH JURISDICTIONS.
- 2) A JAMES CITY COUNTY - WILLIAMSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SHOULD BE CREATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE CODE OF VIRGINIA, CHAPTER 8, SECTION 15.1-271 AND 15.1-272, AND THE ORDINANCES OF JAMES CITY COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION WOULD BE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEISURE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF JAMES CITY COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG. THE COMMISSION SHALL BE VESTED WITH THE POWER, DUTIES, AND OBLIGATIONS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE AS APPROVED AND AGREED UPON BY THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNING BODIES OF BOTH JURISDICTIONS.

THE COMMISSION'S COMPOSITION SHALL CONSIST OF TEN MEMBERS. THE JAMES CITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHALL APPOINT FIVE (5) MEMBERS, ONE FROM EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT. THE WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNTY SHALL APPOINT FIVE (5) MEMBERS AT LARGE THAT RESIDE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS. THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND CITY MANAGER AS WELL AS A SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE AND THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION SHALL SERVE AS NON-VOTING, EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

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A RESOLUTION MUST BE CREATED AND ADOPTED BY BOTH JURISDICTIONS IN ORDER TO LEGALLY ESTABLISH THE JAMES CITY COUNTY - WILLIAMSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION; THEREFORE, THE PRESENT RESOLUTIONS OF BOTH LOCALITIES WILL HAVE TO BE DISSOLVED. A SET OF BY-LAWS STIPULATING THE COMMISSION'S OPERATIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SHOULD ALSO ACCOMPANY THE RESOLUTION AND MUST BE APPROVED BY BOTH GOVERNING BODIES.

- 3) IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE APPROPRIATED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET TO UPGRADE AND MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AND TO INCREASE PROGRAM SERVICES WITHIN THE COUNTY AND CITY.
- 4) JAMES CITY COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL ACQUISITION, DEVELOPMENT, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM AND IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT JAMES CITY COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG RETAIN TITLE TO ALL THEIR RESPECTIVE LANDS, FACILITIES, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS CONNECTED WITH AND USED BY, THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT.
- 5) THE JAMES CITY COUNTY - WILLIAMSBURG PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO APPOINT AND DESIGNATE A DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION.
- 6) JAMES CITY COUNTY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY INITIATE AND DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN AS A GUIDE FOR THE FUTURE GROWTH OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN JAMES CITY COUNTY.

SUGGESTIONS:

IT IS FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS BE GIVEN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION:

- 1) THAT FUNDS BE USED FROM THE EXISTING RECREATION

IMPROVEMENT FUND TO COOPERATIVELY PROVIDE LIGHTING FOR THE BLAIR JUNIOR HIGH BASEBALL FIELD TO MEET AMERICAN LEGION STANDARDS; AND TO IMMEDIATELY UPGRADE THE THREE EXISTING MINI-PARKS.

2) THAT JAMES CITY COUNTY CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO SECURE VARIOUS TYPES OF FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION, DEVELOPMENT, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OF ANY EXISTING OR PROPOSED PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

3) THAT COOPERATION WITH ADJACENT LOCALITIES BE ENCOURAGED WHEREVER AND WHENEVER FEASIBLE.

Mr. Harry Knight asked the Board members if they had any questions on the Committee's presentation.

Mr. Ware asked how the per capita figures in the budget report were developed.

Mr. Michael Tompkins explained they were developed based on participation in the recreational programs by County residents.

Mr. Bentley advised the Board members that the Recreation Advisory Committee felt the American Legion ball teams should have a local lighted field to play on rather than having to drive all the way to Fort Eustis. Mr. Bentley also advised that Mr. Paul Hudson, Recreation Director for the City of Williamsburg, had stated the City would participate in moving the lights to James Blair Junior High School.

Mr. Langdon Richardson said that most of the persons playing ball worked and driving to Fort Eustis for practice and games was a hardship.

Mr. Ware expressed concern that the School Board had moved the lights that were not bought by the School Board.

Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Knight for his presentation and thanked the members of the Recreation Advisory Committee for their hard work. Mr. Edwards informed the Committee that the Board would review their reports and make a final decision.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE WORKSESSION WAS ADJOURNED AT 5:30 P.M.


James B. Oliver, Jr., Clerk
Board of Supervisors

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