

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Building A Large Conference Room
101 Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
January 25, 2017
4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Heath Richardson called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present:

Mr. Heath Richardson, Chair

Mr. Chris Basic

Ms. Robin Bledsoe

Mr. Tim O'Connor

Absent:

Mr. Rich Krapf

Staff:

Mr. John Carnifax, Director of Parks & Recreation

Ms. Julie Northcott-Wilson, Parks & Recreation Business Analyst

Ms. Savannah Pietrowski, Senior Planner

Ms. Tori Haynes, Community Development Assistant

C. MINUTES

1. Minutes Adoption - January 4, 2017 Regular Meeting

Ms. Robin Bledsoe motioned to approve the January 4, 2017, meeting minutes. On a voice vote the minutes were approved 4-0.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Mr. John Carnifax stated that the purpose of this meeting was for Parks & Recreation to receive comments from the Development Review Committee (DRC) on the draft Parks & Recreation Master Plan update before the plan is presented to the full Planning Commission.

Mr. Heath Richardson noted that a large amount of information was presented at the January 4, 2016 DRC meeting, and inquired if there had been any major changes to the data since then.

Mr. Carnifax replied that there have been no major changes. Mr. Carnifax then detailed the new major initiatives that resulted from their public outreach: a primitive camping area, a lawn bowling facility and service improvements for the County's low-income areas.

Ms. Julie Northcott-Wilson presented the revised Level of Service (LOS) spreadsheet for the Master Plan. Ms. Northcott-Wilson noted that most of the standards indicate a deficit; however, the desires of the citizens is what is most important.

Mr. Chris Basic inquired how the Parks & Recreation Department reconciles the difference between the local need versus the national standard during the accreditation process.

Ms. Northcott-Wilson stated the accreditation process only requires that the County has performed an LOS analysis and the results do not impact the County's accreditation.

Mr. Tim O'Connor stated that the results are not national standards, but were prepared by the consultant during the last Master Plan update.

Mr. Carnifax confirmed. Mr. Carnifax reiterated that the results of the analysis are not as much of a concern to Parks & Recreation as the needs of the citizens and what they are willing to fund.

Mr. Richardson inquired if Parks & Recreation has examined the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) requests that may impact these facilities.

Mr. Carnifax replied that the only CIP request that may have an impact are the previously approved replacement of the synthetic turf fields. Mr. Carnifax noted that the spreadsheet could be used as a justification for future requests.

Ms. Bledsoe agreed.

Mr. Richardson noted that it could be useful to highlight a few items as the highest need.

Mr. Carnifax stated that the maps help indicate where gaps are for facilities, particularly for trails. Mr. Carnifax noted that the gaps in trails were also highlighted during the public input process.

Mr. O'Connor inquired if Parks & Recreation has access to the County's sidewalk fund.

Mr. Carnifax replied that they have never used the fund.

Mr. O'Connor noted that there are several areas in the County where there are gaps in sidewalks.

Mr. Carnifax agreed and stated that several connections had been part of the Greenways Master Plan.

Mr. O'Connor stated that these could help make connections to County Parks.

Ms. Bledsoe asked why there has not been Watershed Management Plans completed for all of the County's watersheds.

Mr. Carnifax replied that they are not prepared by Parks & Recreation, but imagines that it is a lengthy process to obtain funding and Board approval.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that she is impressed by all of the County's public-private partnerships, and thanked Mr. Carnifax for allowing a veterans' group she supports to do work on the County's parks.

Mr. Carnifax stated that there will likely be more public-private partnerships in the future, as they are a more cost-effective way to provide services.

Mr. Richardson stated that this could also be helpful in setting priorities for the strategic plan.

Ms. Bledsoe complimented Parks & Recreation staff on the Master Plan.

Ms. Northcott-Wilson presented the service area maps for the Master Plan.

Mr. Carnifax stated that private neighborhood facilities also help serve the citizens, although they may not be open to the general public.

Mr. Richardson suggested adding dots for the facilities on the map.

Mr. Carnifax stated that Parks & Recreation hopes to be able to catalog these facilities in the near future.

Ms. Northcott-Wilson stated that the draft will be presented to the Parks & Recreation Advisor Committee in February and inquired if the DRC members had any additional comments.

The DRC members and Parks & Recreation staff discussed various options for presenting the information in the LOS chart. The DRC members expressed concern that using the word "need" can present a negative image and Mr. Carnifax agreed.

Mr. Carnifax thanked the DRC for its input.

E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

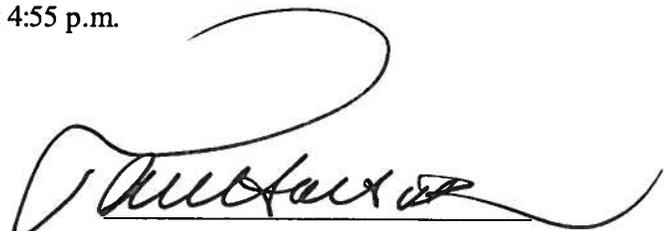
F. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Chris Basic motioned to adjourn.

Mr. Heath Richardson adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.



Mr. Heath Richardson, Chairman



Mr. Paul Holt, Secretary