



# Clayton County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Work Session

## Minutes

October 9, 2023



### Board Member Attendance:

Ianta Burks, Chairman	BOC Chairman Appointee	Present
Ronald Miller	District 1 Appointee	Present
Rickey Lovelace	District 2 Appointee	Present
Carlos Benifield, Vice Chair	District 3 Appointee	Present
Tyrone Dillard	District 4 Appointee	Present
Carlos Frazier	Parks and Recreation / At Large	Absent
James Hellerud	Parks and Recreation / At Large	Present

### Parks and Recreation Staff:

Troy Hodges	Director/Parks and Recreation	Present
Tiffany Moen	Deputy Office Administrator	Present
Troy Stubbs	Assistant Director	Present

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burks called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm. Notice to the public was posted on the Clayton County Parks and Recreation website and social media.

## II. RECOGNIZE CITIZENS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were three citizens present who spoke to the board.

Mr. Gary McGregor stated that he rides his mountain bike on the wooded trails at CCIP and the group attempt to take care of the trails. He is requesting assistance from Park staff on removing larger items along the trail. He requested signage be added to the route and suggested that trail races could be a source of revenue for the department. He also asked for an update on the additional spin bikes that were ordered. Director Hodges said that if Mr. McGregor could mark items for removal, then we can use inmate labor to remove them. As for the spin bikes, they were ordered, and we are awaiting delivery.

Mr. Ralph Valle asked about trail markers and a map for the wooded trails. Director Hodges replied that if Mr. Valle can provide information about what type of signage is needed, then we can provide the signage. As far as a trail map, the department would need someone to draw the map or perhaps technology could assist in drafting a trail map.

Ms. Carissa Evans asked about the front/main entrance to the park and if no parking is still the rule for that area. She said that she was told not to park there via a letter on her car, but others continue to park there. She asked if no parking signage could be put up. Director Hodges stated that some people simply don't follow the rules and we can't really enforce them. He added that we try not to cover the park in signage. Chairman Burks asked what the letter states and was given the

information. Mr. Hellerud added that when cars do park there, it is a safety hazard because it creates difficulty for cars to get around the parked cars. Discussion continued among the board about a possible remedy to the parking issue. Director Hodges said that Parks staff will continue to monitor the situation as needed.

### **III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The September 18, 2023 meeting Minutes were presented to the Board for review, discussion, and approval. No revisions noted. Mr. Benifield made a Motion to approve the Minutes and Mr. Miller seconded the Motion. All in favor; no objections. The Motion was approved.

### **IV. BUSINESS**

#### **A. Goal of the Advisory Board**

Chairman Burks reviewed the BOC resolution from 2007 that created the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. She highlighted the purpose and goals of the board.

#### **B. Working Meetings**

Chairman Burks referenced the minutes for the August 2023 meeting concerning a motion made about working sessions. She stated that the board's job is to advise, cannot give contracts to vendors, and is not a board that should have working meetings because it's out of the board's authority. This board cannot make final decisions on things only advise. She is not opposed to having guests present relevant information but thinks that presentations should be limited to a designated amount of time. Mr. Miller said that the board can advise on many things, he is not an expert, and believes guests should be able to present to educate the board members.

Mr. Lovelace made a motion to limit guest presentations to 15 minutes and material should be provided to board members prior to the meeting and Mr. Hellerud seconded the motion. All in favor, no objections. The motion passed. Mr. Hellerud stated that board meeting notices should be posted on the screens in the recreation centers. Director Hodges said that we can post the meeting notices on the screens two weeks prior to the meeting date.

#### **C. Why Must You Bring Your Own Basketball to Open Gym?**

Mr. Benifield said that it was brought to his attention that people must bring their own basketballs to open gym and wants to know why. Director Hodges said that theft and stealing of basketballs is the reason that you must bring your own ball. Basketball being stolen means we have to continually replace them. Using collateral doesn't work and people continue to steal the basketballs. He added that despite the rule of bringing your own ball, no one will go without a basketball.

### **V. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Parks and Recreation Director Troy Hodges provided an update on the proposed revision to the Fees and Charges Schedule which will be presented to the BOC on October 10, 2023. Director Hodges and Assistant Director Stubbs discussed the proposed increases to the various classes and programs and answered questions from board members. Board members said they understood the reasons for the increases, and no one was opposed to the proposed fee schedule.

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Burks referenced that in the past, the board has not met around the holidays. She proposed to not meet in November or December and have the next meeting in January 2024. Ms. Moen stated that the regular meeting date in January falls on the MLK holiday. Chairman Burks proposed the January meeting be scheduled for January 22, 2024. Mr. Hellerud made a motion to continue the custom of not meeting in November and December and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. All in favor, no objections. The motion passed.

Ms. Moen asked where the board would like to meet for the January meeting. The board decided to have the meeting at the Carl Rhodenizer Recreation Center.

Ms. Moen asked if the board wanted to continue the Zoom option for meetings. Chairman Burks stated yes and wants the meetings to be recorded. She also wants to use the same Zoom link information for all meetings. Mr. Miller mentioned that the Zoom link should be shortened so the link isn't so long. Director Hodges stated that we could create a QR code for the meetings for easier log in.

Ms. Moen reminded the board that the January meeting is considered the organizational meeting, so it is important for all members to be present. The updated board photo still needs to be taken and the Ethics forms can be completed.

Mr. Lovelace stated that early voting starts on October 16<sup>th</sup> and election day is Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Miller mentioned that GIS tools may be an option to create a map for the trails.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Miller made a Motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Lovelace seconded the Motion. The Clayton County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.