

BOTETOURT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the Botetourt County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on March 6, 2023 in Room 212 at the Botetourt County Administration Center, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia.

Members Present: Mr. Dean Hackett (Chairman)
Mr. Tim Snyder
Mr. Danny Agee
Mr. John Mays
Mr. Robert Campbell
Mr. Matthew East
Dr. Donald Scothorn

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mrs. Adkins, Director of Parks and Recreation
Shontae' Wade, Recreation Manager
Chris Mundy, Recreation Program Coordinator
Nikki Bryant, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Hackett called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Hackett welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commission members and staff introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Agee motioned to approve the February 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Mays seconded the motion; motion carried; the minutes were approved as presented.

Mrs. Adkins Adkins introduced Nikki Bryant to the Commission Members. Nikki has been a teacher the past 12 years in Roanoke City and County. She was interested in a career change and now serves as the Park and Recreation Administrative Assistant. She will also serve as Commission Secretary.

Old Business

Commission Meeting Guidelines

Mr. Hackett provided an overview of the proposed public comment guidelines. He noted community members should arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting to fill out their comment card. Speakers will be limited to three minutes to address the Commission. Commission members do not have to respond unless they feel it is appropriate. The goal is to provide the public opportunity to comment.

Mr. Mays motioned to approve the proposal. Mr. Agee seconded; motion carried. Mr. Hackett asked Mrs. Adkins to add proposal to Commission Bylaws.

Mr. Hackett asked if the Commission wanted to consider amending the agenda to add public comment to the current meeting agenda; Mr. Mays made the motion to amend the agenda; Mr. Agee seconded; motion carried; public comment cards were made available to the audience.

Baseball Rules Update

Mr. Mundy provided an update to the baseball and softball rules. He noted that during the February meeting the Commission had requested he review local baseball and softball rules for compliance with Little League. Mr. Mundy indicated that the following changes have been made to Major League rules:

1. Game time limits will be extended to one hour and 45 minutes per Little League guidelines.
2. The department removed the rule that stated a coach would replace the pitcher after three walks per Little League guidelines.
3. The department removed the rule that an inning ends after nine batters per Little League guidelines.

Mr. Agee made a motion to approve the updated baseball and softball rules with the updates Mr. Mundy presented. Mr. Mays seconded; and the motion carried.

New Business

Shontae' Wade provided updates on the 2022-2023 basketball season. The regular season has ended with 9 and up tournaments this week. The 9 & 10 year old division championships are on Friday, March 10 at Colonial Elementary and the 11 & 12 division will be on Saturday, March 11 at James River High School.

Ms. Wade noted that the department added a coaches basketball game this year. The winning team will get a \$65 credit added to their recreation account.

Mrs. Adkins noted they limited the spots to 40 and coaches quickly registered and filled all spots. Mrs. Adkins complimented Shontae' and Chris for their hard work and creativity adding the pickup basketball league for 13 and up as well as the coach basketball game idea. Mr. Hackett agreed saying it was a good idea and clearly coaches were excited for the opportunity. He also likes that the pickup league provides opportunities for people to play who otherwise wouldn't have it.

Quality of Life Survey

Mrs. Adkins discussed the Quality of Life survey offering community members the chance to voice what they'd like to see in Botetourt. The survey is open until March 17, 2023 and is quick/easy to complete. Mrs. Adkins noted asking about people's jobs to gauge how many are remote. Mrs. Adkins went through the headings that the community can provide feedback. Mrs. Adkins encouraged the Commission to take the survey and to spread the word to other community members. Mrs. Adkins indicated that when she looked at results the night before there were 550 responses. She indicated that pickleball, greenways, and trails were popular items listed. Mrs. Adkins hopes to have preliminary data at April's meeting.

Dr. Scothorn asked when the survey went out (February 24, 2023) and if the Board of Supervisors will get the feedback. Dr. Scothorn noted the greenways and trails have been a big topic of discussion.

Locality Reports

Mr. Hackett noted he and Mrs. Adkins attended a VBR Sports Council meeting and mentioned the disc golf tournament in Bedford (5,000 people attending). He noted wanting to look into the disc golf course in Botetourt and make needed adjustments to compete with the facilities in surrounding areas.

Mr. Hackett asked about basketball behavior and ejections. He recently attended VHSL Clinic and was told about high numbers and a significant increase in behavior/ejections from last year. Shonaté said it has not been a major issue this season, but one parent last week was ejected. Mr. Hackett noted statewide 300 ejections from participants and noted wanting to make sure that trend wasn't being seen in Botetourt.

Adjournment

Mr. Agee motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Mays seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.