

## **BOTETOURT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

The regular meeting of the Botetourt County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on October 2, 2023 in Room 212 at the Botetourt County Administration Center, 57 S. Center Drive, Daleville, Virginia.

**Members Present:** Mr. Dean Hackett (Chairman)  
Mr. John Mays  
Mrs. Brittany Crigler  
Mr. Danny Agee  
Mr. Steven Anderson  
Dr. Donald Scothorn  
Mr. Matthew East

**Members Absent:**

**Others Present:** Mandy 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 6:30 P.M.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Hackett welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Mays motioned to approve the agenda; Mr. Agee seconded; the agenda was approved.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Agee moved to approve the June 5, 2023 minutes; Mr. Mays seconded the motion; motion carried; June minutes were approved. Mrs. Crigler move to approve the July 3, 2023 minutes; Mr. Mays seconded the motion; motion carried; July minutes were approved. Mrs. Crigler moved to approve the September 7, 2023 minutes; Mr. Agee seconded the motion; motion carried; September minutes were approved.

### **Public Comment Period**

Mr. Hackett noted no public present to make comment.

### **2023-2024 Recreation Incentive Fund Application Update**

Mrs. Adkins stated that eight Recreation Incentive Fund applications were submitted. It was noted that Dr. Scothorn approved an additional \$5,000 to the fund bringing the total to \$50,000. Unused funds will be rolled over to the following Recreation Incentive Fund application period. The 2023 requested amount is \$46,000. In 2022, seven projects were awarded funding and in 2021, eight projects were awarded funding. There is one outstanding project from 2022 and they have until June 2024 to complete the project (Breckinridge PTA, building materials to build pavilion).

Commission Members will receive the applications by October 30, 2023 to review. During the November 6<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting, applicants will present their projects to the Commission.

### **Department Report:**

#### **Kids in Parks TRACK TRAIL program at Cherry Blossom Trail**

Mrs. Adkins stated the MOU was just signed with Kids in Parks. The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation started the program in 2008 to get families active together. Botetourt was lucky to get a \$6,000 in value grant for the program. Next, they will work on designing a sign that will highlight unique aspects of the Cherry Blossom Trail: the creek, honeybee sanctuary, and link to cross country trail. Families can register their kids on the Kids in Parks website to receive a passport and prizes for each trail they explore. Each trail has its own site and unique sticker.

#### **Athletics Update**

Ms. Wade said we're midway through the fall athletics season and it's been a good season thus far. There are currently 347 basketball registrants with early registration closing Friday and late registration closing next Thursday. Mr. Hackett asked how these numbers are trending and Ms. Wade said the department will evaluate that info next week after registration closes.

### **Locality Reports**

Mr. Hackett noted receiving some questions about the Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail. Mr. Hackett reported he has heard from folks both in support of and in opposition of the trail. Mr. Mays reported that he felt the VDOT citizen information meeting in Eagle Rock went well and had a big turnout. VDOT had great exhibits and posters showing the trail plans and there are surveys out for citizens to provide their input. Mrs. Adkins said the VDOT citizen information meeting in meeting in Craig County turned out well, too. Mr. Agee asked the biggest concerns of the community. Mrs. Adkins stated hearing citizens concerned about: the trail creating an influx of visitors to Oriskany, concerns about bike and pedestrian traffic on secondary roads, and questions regarding hunting areas in close proximity of the trail. Mr. Hackett added he's heard concerns about people being worried about the influx of people and the excess strain on emergency services. Mr. Mays said VDOT exhibits showed traffic studies on number of cars per day and it showed low traffic in the area of concern.

Mrs. Crigler noted she attended the Greenfield Booster Club meeting and the team is anxious to get one booster club up and running. Mr. Hackett asked for a Botetourt Rec Club presentation at an upcoming meeting after Recreation Incentive Fund applications are presented.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Mays motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Crigler seconded the motion; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.