

**MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
COUNTY OF YORK, VIRGINIA  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Meeting Convened.** A regular meeting of the York County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 20, 2008.

**Attendance.** The following members of the PRAB were present: Ms. Donna Simkins, Ms. Sharon Kline, Mr. Bart Barton, Mr. Bill Euker and Mr. Stephen Roth. Absent were Mr. Jack Christie and Mr. James Elder. Staff present was Ms. Cheryl Sonderman and Mr. Brian Fuller.

**Consideration of Minutes.** The minutes of the January 15, 2008 meeting were approved.

**Annual Park Tour Locations.** The PRAB asked to tour New Quarter Park, the Sports Field Complex, Smith Landing and if time permits, the dog park facility at Waller Mill Park. The tour will begin from the Parks and Recreation Office at 6:00 p.m. and a light dinner will be provided. Ms. Simkins will draft a letter of invitation for the Board of Supervisors to join the PRAB on the tour.

**Concession Services at Sports Field Complex.** Ms. Sonderman explained that at the March 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors work session, the Board agreed to let County staff operate the concession services at the complex. The Board's expectation is that after a full year of operation, this service will be reviewed to see if any revisions need to be made.

**Sports Field Complex Construction Update.** Mr. Fuller reported that overall, construction is progressing well. An issue with excess dirt from grading operations had been resolved and the bid for construction of the maintenance building was awarded to David A. Nice Builders. One key issue is the difficulty of obtaining transformers from Dominion Power for the site and the delay in this may require that generators be used to power the irrigation system once sod has been installed on the athletic fields and irrigation is needed for the grow-in period. Although power from transformers is preferred, the County has had to use generators in the past to operate irrigation systems and has done so without any negative impacts.

**Sports Field Complex Usage Policy.** A lengthy discussion took place on comments received from the PRAB members on the first draft of the usage policy. Staff will continue to refine the policy and provide the PRAB with another draft to review prior to forwarding to the Board of Supervisors for approval in the fall.

**Dog Parks.** Mr. Barton asked if the staff had been directed to conduct a study on dog parks. Ms. Sonderman replied that she had received a call from Mr. McReynolds,

County Administrator, asking for various information about dog parks, but at this point in time, staff was not requested to conduct such a study.

Additional discussion focused on whether or not there has been a survey to clarify the understanding of the broader needs of the community. Ms. Simkins stated that her recent update of the Comprehensive Plan included survey data on parks and recreational needs. The PRAB expressed concern about the lack of County owned property set aside for future development of community facilities.

**Communications with the Board of Supervisors.** Ms. Simkins indicated that she would be writing a letter for the PRAB members to review that not only invited the BOS members to the park tour in May but also ask them how they would like the PRAB to communicate with them. Mr. Barton maintained his interest in requesting a work session with the Board to discuss various issues relating to parks and recreation services.

**Update on Greenways Planning.** Ms. Amy Parker was not able to provide an update to the PRAB on the greenways because she is on medical leave. Ms. Sonderman reported that the Planning Division was receiving cost estimates for the project and would provide that information to the PRAB when she receives it.

**Matters Presented by the Board.** Mr. Barton asked if staff could provide some information on the matter of the requirement for the gates to remain locked at Chisman and Wolf Trap Parks unless there is an activity scheduled. He has had an inquiry from a citizen in this regard. Ms. Sonderman said she would provide some information for Mr. Barton.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.