

MINUTES

Parks and Recreation Commission of the Augusta County Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Samantha Bosserman, Vice Chair
Sally Williams, Member
Leon Bartley, Member
Ernie Landes, Member
Steve Morelli, Member
Kirk Barley, Member
Larry Curry, Chair

ABSENT:

1. Call to Order

Mr. Curry called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

2. Comments by the

Public No public present.

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1 July minutes for approval

[July 2022.pdf](#)

Ernie Landes moved to approve July minutes as written.

Samantha Bosserman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report

4.1 August Treasurer's report

[2022 AUGUST Treasurers report.pdf](#)

5. Director's Report

5.1 August Director's report

Mr. Wells gave highlights of the Director's report and added a new painting instructor will be holding classes in the future. Mrs. Williams asked when the classes will begin. Mr. Wells stated due to commitments the instructor already had the classes will be after the turn of the calendar year. The class will not be shown in the fall guide being distributed in households in a few weeks, but will be advertised online and through our RecReport.

Mr. Wells informed the Commission staff has been discussing eGaming. Mr. Morelli asked how much starting up the program costs? Mr. Wells stated we have not looked into the cost at this point as the department is just in the gathering information

phase. He stated it appears as though the Parks and Recreation departments that currently offer eGaming only give use of their facilities and a third party runs the programs. Mr. K Barley stated he brought this up originally because statistically kids have a higher chance of going pro in eGaming than other sports. He stated his main concern is not all children in Augusta County have access to the internet to learn how to play or compete. Having a program like this would help them gain knowledge and experience they may otherwise not be able to gain.

Mr. Morelli asked if the program could be held in our Augusta County libraries. Mr. Wells stated that is on our list to discuss should we decide to pursue this program. Mr. K Barley informed the Commission there may be grants for locations looking into hosting a program such as this. Mrs. Williams asked if a league would be controlling the gaming. Mr. Wells stated a league would. He said leagues provide a level of safety and supervision against predators that the Parks and Recreation department could not. He stated grants would help to provide money for the infrastructure. He stated we are still in the research phase. Parks and Recreation will talk with local schools and libraries, as well as possible public surveys to gauge interest in such a program. Mrs. Bosserman stated there may be an opportunity for kids to teach other kids in this program. She was part of a discussion 10 years ago where students came to VHSL asking for eGaming to become a recognized sport. Mr. Wells updated the Commission on Mr. Ritchie's memorial story walk. A site visit with Weyers Cave Community Center has been set up to view space. The library is also looking at ways to improve the story walk before a plan is in place.

[August 2022 DIR's report.pdf](#)

6. Matters to be presented by the Commission

Mr. K Barley attended a Quarterback Club meeting where one of the agenda items was acquiring an AED for spectators at games. A defibrillator cost runs between \$1200-\$1500. A discussion on whether they should be provided took place. A result of the discussion ended in Mr. Morelli agreeing to talk with local fire departments to see what, if anything, can be done. Mr. Wells will speak to the school system to inform and start a dialogue about the subject.

7. Matters to be presented by Staff

No Matters to be presented by Staff.

8. Old Business

Mr. Curry informed the Commission a softball tournament was held at the New Hope Community Center 2-3 weeks back to benefit several local people battling cancer. He stated he was impressed with the turnout as some of the teams participating were from Pennsylvania.

9. New Business

No new business to discuss.

10. Announcement of Next Meeting and Adjournment

Mr. Curry announced next month's meeting for September 21 at 7pm at the Government Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Samantha Bosserman moved to adjourn .

Ernie Landes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.