

# MINUTES

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
THE MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON IN THE AV ROOM  
AT CITY HALL**

**4:00 P. M., FEBRUARY 24, 2022**

Larry Moore, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Charleston City Council Committee on Parks and Recreation to order at 4:00p.m., February 24, 2021.

**Committee Members Present:**

Larry Moore, Chair

Bruce King, Vice Chair (arrived at 4:17, after approval of minutes)

Joseph Jenkins

Deanna McKinney (via Zoom, left at 4:30 due to connectivity issues)

Chad Robinson

**Committee Members Absent:**

Jeanine Faegre

Pat Jones

**Other Councilmembers Present:**

Mary Beth Hoover

A roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

1. Approval of Previous Minutes 7-29-2021–

Councilmember Robinson motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 7-29-2021. Councilmember Faegre seconded. There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

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## 2. Completed Parks and Recreation Projects –

Mayor Goodwin added that Parks and Recreation's success is a team effort led by Director Sayles. The extensive list (reproduced at the end of the minutes) is a testament to their hard work and accomplishments from the previous year.

Sayles added that her staff has worked countless hours, going above and beyond their duties.

The Cato Park project has begun, but is currently stopped until the weather gets warmer.

## 3. Upcoming Projects

Sayles stated that they have requested CDBG funds for some projects. One project that has been started is for automatic door openers at the Kanawha City, North Charleston, Roosevelt and MLK Centers. They will be updating the Admin building at Cato, fixing the front sidewalk at MLK, and replacing various park benches, etc. Bathroom stalls at MLK will also be updated, as well as various cardio equipment at all Centers.

Mayor Goodwin added that the 2 fields that cannot be re-turfed will be resurfaced.

Councilmember Robinson asked if Sayles could check on the bathrooms at North Charleston for Senior Softball. Sayles added that there are portable bathrooms there now.

Councilmember Robinson added that the Kanawha City Community Association is asking if the fenced K-9 training area in Kanawha City was still being used, and if not, could it be used for a dog park. Sayles replied that they might use it occasionally, but have mostly moved to a different location. She will check on that. They would need to figure out how to properly drain the area for a dog park.

Sayles added that they will also be installing a security camera system at the Kanawha City Rec Center.

## 4. Needs for Parks and Recreation –

Sayles stated that the Department didn't really need anything that they hadn't already asked for. They have received great support from the Administration.

5. Recruiting for Lifeguards and Other Summer Positions -

Sayles added that they are planning to partner with the YWCA and Legendary Lifeguards to help pay for certification costs. She added that last year they received many applications, but it was a challenge to get enough certified.

Councilmember Jenkins asked if they would certify some staff members as well. Sayles replied that it was too much of a liability to do that.

Councilmember Robinson confirmed that all of the City pools will be open this Summer.

Councilmember Jenkins asked if they would be drug testing before doing the certifications. Sayles confirmed that they would be.

6. Miscellaneous -

Councilmember King confirmed that there are plans to resurface the outdoor basketball court at MLK and NC.

Councilmember Robinson inquired as to the pickleball courts. Sayles added that 2 pickle ballcourts will fit into 1 tennis court, but will require another net. When they resurface, the essentially add a sealant to the area. Sayles added that they could add the lines and purchase a few portable nets, like at MLK.

Councilmember Jenkins asked if the pickleball courts were being used as he was concerned there would be conflicts with pickleball and basketball use. Sayles added that set up has worked at MLK.

Councilmember Robinson asked if the Department was still responsible for graffiti removal. Sayles replied that they were, but she would like to talk about that. Councilmember Robinson added that there is some graffiti on the underpass by CAMC. He added that another Department, like Public Works, should be responsible for that. Sayles added that it made since for them to remove graffiti in parks, but maybe not City-wide.

Councilmember Robinson rooted for the Cougars.

Councilmember Robinson motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.



# Charleston Parks and Recreation

## 2021 Accomplishments

### February 24, 2022

- Updated the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center which included:
  - New paint throughout the facility
  - New flooring in all administration offices
  - Additional new updated lighted exit signs
  - Relocation of existing rooms
- Completed multi-recreational outdoor space at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center which included:
  - Updated walkway
  - Updated lighting
  - New electrical outlets
  - Two full length basketball courts with adjustable basketball goals
  - A new futsal court and nets
  - New sets of bleachers
  - Added lines for six pickleball courts
- Partnered with the Vandalia Civic Club to create a community garden
- Added Pickleball lines to the Edgewood Tennis Courts
- Began the ADA bathroom update project at the Kanawha City Community Center
- Began Cato Park Walking Trail Project
- Offered free public golf at Cato Park
- Partnered with HRDF to provide summer youth employment
- Honored Robert Edward Easley Sr. by dedicating the western wing of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center designated for afterschool programming in his honor
- Repaved the North Charleston Community Center parking lots
- Updated Oakmont Park to include:
  - New playground border
  - New mulch
  - Updated wood for benches
  - Replaced basketball rims and nets
- Fixed years old water leak at Cato Park
- Updated playground fall protection surfaces and border at many of the playgrounds
- Removed old playground and replaced with new play equipment at Bigley Ave.
- Updated the East End Community Park by including:
  - Playground equipment
  - New Fitlot outdoor exercise equipment
  - Small umbrella splash pad feature
- Created new dog park at Cato Park

- Created new dog park on Dunbar St in downtown.
- Created new Skate Park
- Created the new Beatrice Street Park which includes:
  - Two full length basketball courts
  - Youth playground
  - Parking lot
  - Updated lighting
- Helped to host the WVSSAC State Tennis tournament
- Helped to host the Thunder in the Mountain College Tennis Tournament
- Participated in the city Christmas Parade and received the first-place award!
- Created a new partnership with the Bob Burdette Center to provide an afterschool program located at the North Charleston Community Center.
- Began the process to update the HVAC systems at the North Charleston Community Center and Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center
- Upgraded the camera security systems as both the North Charleston Community and Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center
- Installed new public access computers in the Kanawha City Community Center and Roosevelt Neighborhood Center
- Updated the pool deck at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center pool
- Lifeguard certification sponsorship

#### Programs and Activities:

- Summer Enrichment Camp at Roosevelt
- Root Beer Float Day at Roosevelt
- World Suicide Prevention Day at Roosevelt
- Fruit Smoothies Day at Roosevelt
- National Homemade Cookie Day at Roosevelt
- Stop Bullying Day at Roosevelt
- Girl's Game Night at Roosevelt
- Boy's Game Night at Roosevelt
- National Sandwich Day Event at Roosevelt
- Youth Night Basketball at Roosevelt
- Glo-Basketball Night at Roosevelt
- Senior Bingo at NCCC
- Back to School Summer Party at NCCC
- Kings of North Summer Basketball League at NCCC
- Breakfast Club at NCCC
- Kids Game Night at NCCC
- Teen Game Night at NCCC
- Kids Christmas Shop NCCC
- Socializing through Play at NCCC

- Family Game Night at NCCC
- Wushu Football Camp at MLK
- Senior Bingo at MLK
- Family Kickball Night at MLK
- Pool Tournament at MLK
- MLK Summer Basketball League
- Senior Art Class
- MLK Flag Football League
- Kids Power Hour at MLK
- Teen Game Night at MLK
- Youth Game Night at KCCC
- Youth Movie Night at KCCC
- Card Sharks at KCCC
- Women's Fitness Hour at KCCC
- Nature Hikes
- Charleston Coin Club Meetings at KCCC
- Senior Social at KCCC
- Painting Parties at KCCC
- Twirl Class at KCCC
- Youth Karaoke at KCCC
- Celebrated National Dog Park Day at the East End Dog Park
- Bidy Basketball Practice Program – All centers
- Trunk or Treat at Magic Island
- Urban Fishing at Cato Park