

**KANAWHA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
COMMISSION MEETING**

**July 20, 2022
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at Coonskin Park in the Oak Room. This is the monthly meeting of the Kanawha County Parks and Recreation Commission and President Tackett called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Allen Tackett, Dave Pope, John Robertson, Andrew Jordon, Steve Koepsel, Janet Drumheller, Chris Hamilton, Karen Haddad,

ABSENT: Pat Donahoe, John Huddleston, Stuart Smith,

OTHERS

Commissioner Wheeler

Jeff Hutchinson, Director

Brad Maschari,

Jordan Herrick (phone)

Margert Zaleski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Haddad made a motion to approve the minutes from June and Commissioner Drumheller seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Drumheller reported that we are holding our own on employment and everything looks good. No one has been hired and we had some people put in applications, we need them to help with Holiday Lights. Overall, it is the same crew that we've had.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Jeff reported that we are waiting on grants for Coonskin Clubhouse improvements, and everything is coming from the county commission.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jeff reported that there is no report this month and Sarah is working on the end of the year financials. Jeff reported that we got three quotes for our server. The HPE MC 350 with a three-year warranty was \$9,081.17. It was \$11,981.17 for our IT people to do and that includes the \$2,500 transfer. And there is a one-year-old server that came off of a lease that our IT people found for \$6,535.19 plus the \$2,500 transfer fee. It also includes a three-year warranty. CPW Online Computer Services had one for \$10,654.72 and with the install and transfer it came to \$14,279.72. The best price is the one year off lease with the three-year warranty. Our current company is CBS (Central Business System) and they priced new and used servers. Commissioner Koepsel stated that his company

uses a server, and he is worried about a used server and the issue of not being able to get stuff off the used server and is not sold on that one. The next cheapest is \$11,981.17 and is a brand-new server. President Tackett suggested that we go with the new one and it will be set up like we want it. Commissioner Drumheller agreed. Commissioner Robertson made a motion to accept the bid of \$11,981.17 for the new server with the transfer of data. Commissioner Drumheller seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Jeff said as soon as we can get it in, they will come and swap servers on a weekend when we are not doing business in the office.

GOLF COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pope reported that the WVGA has moved into their building, and they are waiting on power to be ran. He said he talked with Kelly Shumate about the golf course re-design and he said he didn't see any problem with the contracts and that all of the stumps are almost out. We got delayed getting the rest out due to weather. The pump bid will open on Monday because one bid that we got back was late. He said that he talked with one person and the supply chain is freed up and could meet the August deadline. Commissioner Pope said that Brad Ulman with the WVGA is working on getting some golf people for the grand opening. Commissioner Pope said it would take three months to move the dirt then we have two growing seasons and should be ready in May. Rounds of golf at Coonskin were 751 and last year was 791. There were 1,908 rounds played at Big Bend versus 1,709 last year. Comes to about a \$7,000 difference. We are well over 10,000 rounds played at Big Bend, so we are getting lots of play. We probably do approximately 28,000 round per year and that's one of the busiest courses in the state. Jeff said that we have problems with the intake at Big Bend and tried to get AEP to move a transformer box and have had no luck. He said he got a number of someone, and they got down there and worked on it the next day. While it was down, the weather was hot, and we got hot spots on some of the greens. We are cutting sod off Coonskin's greens to replace the spots at Big Bend. They are taking plugs and not strips with plenty of root on them and they will grow, and we can immediately mow. He said hopefully when the pump is repaired, we can irrigate the whole course and the intake needs fixed and filtered.

COONSKIN FOUNDATION

Commissioner Haddad reported that the foundation needs some seats filled on the board and is up for suggestions.

PUBLIC SAFTEY

Jeff reported for Chief Amburgy and said that we've had approximately 27,000 vehicles in the park since Memorial Day. He also said that we got a couple vehicles, two trucks and another one in the shop.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Jeff reported that he is working with FEMA and S&S has finished the preliminary engineering work and will go over it again with FEMA on Friday. He said that he went with Matt to Big Bend, and they are working on an egress for the equipment, and they will have to close holes #1-3 because of the equipment. Holes #10, 8, and 17 may be closed depending on groundwork. He said we will have to build a road to get the

equipment in and out. Then we will be down hole #1 and between holes #10 and 17 and by the green on 18. They will put a 2 to 1 slope device then work on the green relocation and relocate it away from the river. Jeff said while Kelly Shumate is here, we will pick his brain for help on the relocation. We will replace all cart paths from the parking lot on top of the hill to hole #10 and the left side of hole #1 all the way to hole #2 and everything they cross and on the river side and repair any fairways they damage, etc. They are replacing a lot of cart paths, and no one has a cart path paver. The people that did Meadowood's paving can use a small, modified paver for the cart paths. Commissioner Haddad asked how long this will take. Jeff said they are hoping to start in the fall and finish by spring. He said it better in the fall with not closing down as much. We will reroute the play of the course and they will still be able to play the same number of holes so there will be no rate changes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

LEGAL REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Zaleski wanted to let the maintenance know that when they were walking in the upper park, she saw some mowers driving up the hill and they did a loop around in circles and it turned out they ran over a copperhead snake. She said they did it because of them, they had a dog with them, and it was nice of them to do that, so no one got bit. Mrs. Zaleski would like to know what the poles, cables, and nets are for in the upper park. Jeff answered they are doing a bat survey for the environmental impact study from the airport. They had been here for two and half weeks catching them and tagging them to see where their nests are. Mrs. Zaleski said she is appalled by the conditions of the tennis courts, nets, and wind screens. She said that one court has grass growing on it. Commissioner Wheeler stated that we have had multiple conversations about tennis and pickle ball, and we talked about moving them to a different area. Where these courts sit, it will continue to deteriorate and instead of putting more money into the courts we are looking to replace them on higher ground. This is included in the plan with the shelters and the tennis courts sit in the worst part of the park. There is not much play there and most play is in Kanawha City, Charleston Tennis Club or at the YMCA. The high school and middle school use it in the spring and tennis is not big here. Pickleball play however is picking up.

Commissioner Hamilton asked if golf is closed at Coonskin. Jeff answered that they are still able to play on the greens and they are in good shape, so they are still playing. Jeff added that we will salvage the sod for a putting green on the range. The last day of play at Coonskin will be July 31, 2022. Commissioner Hamilton asked if there is anyway for golf to be on the back nine holes. Jeff said that we can't do anything back there and the ribbon cutting for the groundbreaking of the new course will be Friday, July 29th and we are waiting on details from Leslie. Leslie said that the groundbreaking will be at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Hamilton added that a lot of average golfers play here and just get out to hit a ball and not worrying about a top-notch golf course. Jeff said if people want to hit balls, they can use the driving range and there is nothing we can do with the back nine. It has been closed since 2016 with the flood and it took out the irrigation. We could only save one side of the course and saved the front because most people like the

front nine better. Commissioner Koepsel said that he has seen no movement on the website and we're paying for it. Jeff said they are working on it and when Sarah gets back, she will send an update. Commissioner Koepsel said that 9 holes of disc golf needs to go somewhere, and he talked with Little Creek and also suggested looking at putting them at Meadowood Park. He added that St. Albans may lose the disc golf course. Our guy's mow Meadowood Park and Commissioner Koepsel thinks it would be a great place for disc golf. Commissioner Wheeler suggested to move the disc golf to Meadowood Park, and it would be good because it won't be as open. He said to take it out of Coonskin and move it to Meadowood and talk with the Coal River Group to help with the trails along with our crew. Commissioner Haddad asked about the pump at East Bank pool and Jeff reported that it is up and running and filtering great.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Haddad seconded the motion. All were in favor.

President Tackett called the meeting adjourned at 2:41p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeffrey K. Hutchinson, Director