

Virginia Recreation and Park Society

Central Service Area Meeting – December 12, 2024

Midtown Green

2401 W. Leigh Street, Richmond, VA 23220

Minutes

Attendees: Hannah Lagana, Hannah Salmon, Alyssa Ferguson, Rebecca Johnson, Valerie Burton, Glynes Cheatham, Rodneesha Billing, Chris Clarke, Sureatha McGhee, Karen Gray, Charles Hester, Jessie Honaker

Business Meeting

Meeting called to order.

Minutes:

Minutes from the September meeting was reviewed. Moved and second to approve the minutes from the September 2024 meeting. Voting for minutes approved.

Networking:

Icebreaker activity

Board Reports:

2025 CSA Board:

Emmy Richards – CSA Chair

Vacant – Chair Elect

Jessie Honaker – Secretary

Karen Gray – Treasurer

Lizzie Shores, Chris Clarke, and Tom Cocke – At large Members

CSA spotlights are still happening. Submit to anyone on the board any programs, awards, or certifications you are proud of and want to share with others. We have recently been highlighting programs throughout 2024.

2025 CSA Meeting:

First in person date is set for March 20th from 11 am – 1 pm in Goochland and will include lunch.

Rockwood Nature Center in Chesterfield will host the meeting on May 22nd from 2-4 pm

Hanover and Ashland will be the other two host locations for meetings.

Thank you to all the 2024 locations for hosting us this year.

CSA Deep Dives:

Deep Dives will continue in 2025. 2024 topics were mental health, marketing, summer camps and inclusion, and AI.

We are looking for people to host and have topics to discuss for 2025.

Secretary:

Meeting dates, times, and locations for 2025 will be listed on the CSA page on the VRPS website when confirmed.

Make sure to check the website for virtual and in person trainings and events.

Treasurer:

CSA currently has \$463.27.

Chair:

Sparks @ Play will be hosting a workshop with two separate sessions at Beulah Recreation Center in Chesterfield on January 30th. \$15 for one session and \$25 for both. Lunch is included. Registration is live for that event.

VRPS Board Updates:

Leadership summit will be in February more information will come out later about that. Budget for 2025 is not needed at this time and if you have funds from 2024 you will need to complete the forms for it and submit to VRPS.

Roundtable discussion:

Fall events:

Goochland: Fall Festival back in October which had a good amount of people. Included 40 vendors and a costume contest as well. Santa Calling is taking place today with 230 kids to call.

Chesterfield: Pumpkin Bash event for TR worked with our cosponsors, Winter Dance next week for TR with 100 participants during the day, Beulah Recreation Center hosted their Boo Bash which included a haunted trail and short film for Toy story at the end. The other recreation centers also had a variety of events, special events hosted their Trunk or Treat and had 8,000 people attend with a variety of vendors and a department trunk. We have had three tree lightings this year as well.

Powhatan: Spooky trail walks with partners YMCA and the library. Had over 1,000 people who attended. After the trail had the movie Hocus Pocus play in the park. Had our village trick or treat event. Pawlloween for dogs as well with pup cups. Holiday market coming up with 40 vendors. Will have items such as handmade art, jewelry, honey, jams, and food trucks. 4-H will be holding gingerbread decorating for kids during the event and vendors will be in the gym.

Richmond: 14 youth division won the football championships and went to play in Florida. Light up RVA was last week, and the Christmas parade was Saturday. Community centers are all doing activities as well. Richmond is the chair for VRPS in 2026. Holly Ball was held with support from the city and

sponsors. Was held at the Altria Theater and was \$32 per person which included their meal. Holiday fun, people dress up, and it features entertainment. Had over 600 people who attended. Tree lightings in the park. 55+ activities such as tea parties and trips to the country fair. Fed over 300 people for Thanksgiving, had three Thanksgiving events, and a Winter Wonderland at the center.

King George: Four people retiring and are in the process of reorganizing.

Colonial Heights: Eras Night a Taylor Swift Night. Had a lot of preteens attend the event. It was super successful and was able to get a sponsor for another one so that it is free for individuals to attend. Pop princess theme in April

Thank you for attending in 2024 and thank you to the board.

Meeting adjourned.