

Virginia Recreation and Park Society

Central Service Area Meeting – September 26, 2024

Lake Anna State Park Visitor Center

6014 State Park Lane, Spotsylvania Courthouse, VA 22551

Minutes

Attendees: Jessica Honaker, Hannah Lagana, Emmy Richards, Karen Gray, Lizzie Shores, Kim Turner, Alyssa Ferguson, Brian Barnes, Krystal Medeiros, Camilla Jacobs, Chris Clarke, Tom Cocke, Aaron Reidmiller

Business Meeting

Meeting called to order.

Minutes:

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

Networking:

Icebreaker activity by Lizzie Shores

Box Turtle experience with Ranger Allison

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

Upcoming CSA Meeting:

Next CSA meeting will be held on December 12th. The meeting will have a Team or Zoom option available.

CSA Deep Dives:

Next Deep Dive session will be November 21st from 2-3 pm on Special Events and AI

Resource Group updates:

Add that you want to join a resource group to your profile so that you can be contacted.

Special Events: November 30th at 10 am Jason Bookheimer will be speaking on plans to survive the season.

Parks: Nov 16th will be discussing trail maintenance

Seniors: Oct 10th at 10 am on Zoom

Therapeutic Recreation: TR Summit on November 13th at Henrico

Outdoors: Nov. 7th all about mountain biking

Special events workshop being held on October 17th from 10 am – 2 pm at Henrico Sports and Events Center

Richmond Region Tourism will be there to discuss their tourism ambassador program.

Tri City Chili Peppers will be there to discuss their Cosmic Baseball and getting a large amount of attention through social media.

Henrico Sports and Events will be there to discuss programs and events and give a facility tour.

Registration for the event will close on October 11th. Everyone is welcome to join.

Marketing deep dive on August 29th

Roundtable discussion:

Summer review:

Chesterfield: Ran their New Directions TR Camp and worked with partner Step N Up to have their Catch A Wave Summer Party with 70 participants.

Colonial Heights: Had a modified Rec and Roll from 9 am -12 pm that took place in parks. Ended summer with preschool prom event.

Ashland: pool had busiest summer that it ever had, including Play All Day VA. End of the season had first pup swim event with Guide Dogs for the Blind. Had 17 guide dogs in training attend. Used it for training and play.

King George: 50% of staff retiring coming up.

New Kent: Camp this summer, had a lot of inclusion needs, had camp 5 days a week k-5. There is a director/assistant director conference in April, look for more information soon. Opening for a rec specialist/programmer.

Spotsylvania: One week camp at Lake Anna. Let's kids get out in nature. Camp was for middle schoolers, and we can teach them how to fish, canoe, meet animal ambassadors, and get to meet a possum. If able to work with state parks, please do so. Most successful pool season only closed for one day due to

weather. Able to find plenty of lifeguards to work. Community clean ups and assisting VDOT with adopt a highway. Welcome Krystal who has been in her role for 3 months.

Goochland: Guttled space to provide camp space had 80 kids in a camp, did not have field trips. 3 half day camps and 4 full day camps in one building. Play All Day VA went well, had self-guide and instructor led programs as well as a scavenger hunt for prizes. Concession stand trailer being worked on. After school program for all three schools. One school had a waitlist of 7 kids. Using the cafeterias and gyms in 2 of the schools and using a rec center for one of the schools. The after-school programs run from 2:15 pm – 6 pm.

Hanover: Great summer programs this summer. Had staff led and instructor led summer camps. Served about 1,400 kids this summer. Camps went to 5 days a week. Capital projects going on now for replacing playgrounds, paving parking lots, and restrooms. Opening new rec center on Oct. 16th in Montpelier. The rec center is a shared space with the library. Big events happening in the parks. Cross country event taking place November 18th in Polegreen Park.

A lot of departments won VRPS awards this year in CSA. Congratulations to everyone.

Thank you, Spotsylvania, for putting together the auction basket for our area.

Meeting adjourned.