

**Virginia Recreation and Park Society  
Central Service Area Meeting – March 16, 2022  
via Zoom  
Minutes**

Attendees: Jessie Honaker, Marlie Creasey-Smith, Karen Robinson, Brandon Ashe, Darlene Holland, Tonya Leabough, Nilay Patel, Sammy Walker, Joe Stovall, Tom Gates, Paul Wilmoth, Aaron Reidmiller, Tabitha Martinez, Shanna Battle, Marcy Durrer, Robbie Roach, Travis Ross, AJ McCage, Hannah Bell, James Laidler, Shamiya Taylor-Bland, Shannon Entsminger, Julie Edwards, Kim Graves, James Worsley, Melanie Ramos, Julie Edwards, Matt Spruill

**Business Meeting**

Marlie called the meeting to order. Roundtable Introductions.

Minutes: Unapproved minutes are posted on the website. Minutes from the Dec. meeting were shared and reviewed. Moved and second to approve the minutes from the Dec. 2021 meeting. Voting for minutes to be approved.

VRPS Information:

Tabitha Martinez shared information from the VRPS board. LTI the last day to register is March 25th. Will take place April 25-27. Annual conference is November 5-8th speaker proposals due June 15th. Hands On Athletics Fields Training March 21st -March 24th. CPSI Spring 2022 James City County April 6<sup>th</sup> -8th

Matt Spruill talked about the Annual Conference for this year.

CSA positions:

Vice Chair for 2022 is Nilay Patel. Moved and second to appoint. Voted to approve the motion.

Other updates:

Programming and fundraising ideas were discussed, and ideas were shared regarding how to get people involved in the central area.

Park Management Institute Tabitha to touch base with Dan Smith

Paul Wilmoth mentioned virtual training opportunities for VRPS and a book club

Pickleball tournament to be looked at and planned by Aaron Reidmiller and Nilay Patel

Sharon Entsminger emailed Chesterfield about possible dates for pickleball

Roundtable:

Hopewell: New marina concept being worked on. 3 playground renovations taking place. Hosting the Annual Easter Egg hunt and a firework show. The concert series postponed due to the marina construction. Outdoor programming for preschool through 14 years old. Various programs taking place.

Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next meeting on 6/1/2022. A grant received to run summer camp. Accepted into the Head Start Program to come in and program with the students. Partnerships with the Hopewell police for programs. Providing inclusive programs. Building the senior population back up. Introduction to sports and summer camps.

Hanover: Director vacancy and maintenance vacancies. New recreation program assistant. Hanover Tomato Festival returns July 15th and 16th with Friday having live music, vendors, 4K and food and Saturday being family focused with face paintings and scavenger hunts. The 2022 calendar of special events completed. Shamrock the parks using app to find shamrocks in the parks. Dog-Gone 5k run with their dogs in April. Taylor the mascot is going on tour to different locations. Summer camps returning this year. Montpelier Park to have the first community rec center. Matthew and Daniel Roller Hockey Rink renovation project received a NACPRO award

Colonial Heights: Spring programs taking place. Softball/baseball currently going on. Spring Break Mini Camps starting soon. Working on summer camp in the parks.

Loudoun County: Douglass Community Center is currently working on spring programs. Preparing for Latino Festival in May. Planning for summer camps and finding trips for the children. Holding an International Cooking Camp Learning to Cook 101.

Fredericksburg: Preparing for programs and sports camps. Several events coming up for the city. Planning the Annual Picnic in the Park event.

Richmond: Getting ready for summer camps. Festival of Arts coming up. 60 Second Film Festival held again this year.

Henrico: Holding programs including the park mobile pop-up program. Opening large facilities that include basketball courts and volleyball courts. Green city project taking place out in the county. Sports authority division. Director vacancy.

Chesterfield: Over the next 90 days there are several large events at a variety of facilities. Used VSU for the Small College Athletics Association's Championships. River City Sportsplex to host largest soccer tournament the Jefferson Cup, Spikeball event in April, an adult kickball tournament Turf Wars based out of Charlotte in May. Working with Softball Nation and USA softball coming in. Tour De Pocahontas in March. Installed adult fitness area in Dodd Park plan to install 2 more at different parks. Opened a playground in Daniel Park. Recruiting for positions for special events, Bensley Rec Center Supervisor, and seasonal positions. Received a NACPRO award for the Decades Sock Hop at Stonebridge Rec Center. Therapeutic Recreation Spring Prom to take place. All Abilities Recreation Fair being held on April 16th at Bensley Park and is a resource fair for individuals of all abilities and ages to find recreation opportunities in Central Virginia. Construction has completed 85/94 projects slated for this year. 97 projects are planned for 2022/2023. Six regional parks are going into design and will be operational in the next 5 years. Harrowgate Park was approved last week and will boost the area's first Destination Playground. Concert series to continue at River City Sportsplex with 10 to 12 concerts. New director will start on Monday 3/21/2022. Offering trips for 50+ population with two coming up. Pickleball going well and the 50+ population is increasing.

Next meeting is being held on June 1st 11 a.m. (Virtual) with meeting minutes sent and will plan for further meetings

Meeting adjourned