

MATHEWS COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
November 2, 2023

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Welcome
4. Approval of October minutes
5. Citizen Input
6. Old Business
 - Discussion of parks
 1. Park tour update
 2. Port Fun improvements
 3. Hallieford Beach update
7. New Business
 1. Multi-purpose trails
 2. Pickle Ball Update
8. Adjournment and next meeting reminder, December 7th, 2:00PM

Mathews County Parks & Rec Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes Nov. 2nd, 2023, 2pm

Chesapeake Community Room, Chesapeake Bank Mathews County

Meeting called to order by Tom Robinson; in attendance- Amber Moore, Earl Byrum, Dan Reno, Sharon Frye, Buzz-YMCA, Jean Howard; Nick Koch called in at 2:15pm.

- call to order - roll call - welcome – approval of Oct. minutes – Citizen input

Old business-

- We have April & Aug. minutes, no quorum reached in June, we need to obtain the minutes for May & July.
- Park tour update-20+ pieces of possible park properties to inspect. We need to look at these sites so we can recommend ways to improve them. It would be nice to have Tim Tillage with us when we check them out and have him attend our meetings too if possible. He is just extremely busy.
- Problem with Hallieford Beach is the drainage...VDOT will attempt a French Drain to alleviate the sand washing away problem.
- Aaron Beach- Sign stolen or “blown away” that needs to be replaced. \$600 to replace it.

New Business-

- Pickleball report by Nick- need real courts, painted lines on a tennis court are just too confusing, and needs good fencing, YMCA has 3 inside PB courts but you have to be a member or pay a fee to use them.
- Park Ordinances need to be updated, some concerns are firearms, times to be open, some exceptions like the tennis courts where they have lights. Signs created after Ordinances finalized.
- Discussion of how Camping & Fishing areas are needed. No Fishing is allowed on the bridge at Bethel Beach and that is the best fishing area. Buzz asked that we fill him in with any ideas of needed recreational activities.
- Billups Creek Park discussed, really needed there for its water access. Hopefully this will happen after the election.
- Gwynn’s Island Park will hopefully move forward then too with a 100 foot fishing pier in 9-foot water. It is already County owned.
- Discussion of the VA250 coming up and a park celebrating the History of the area would be very appropriate.
- East River Boatyard- floods easily, money set aside to improve it for its water access. We need to tour it and report if it makes sense to spend money there. Tim Tillage would be the one with the plans of what might happen there.

- Tom encouraged us to attend the BOS meetings to be informed and possibly answer questions.
- Jan Towne and Cristine Johnson will be non-voting members working on the Trail improvements. They will be reporting to Nick Koch.
- Discussion of Machicomoco Park in Gloucester and wouldn't it be wonderful to have something like that in Mathews County. It is a State Park and provides organized programs and activities to the public.

We adjourned at 2:57pm, Next Meeting Dec. 7th, 2023