

Mathews County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

Agenda

Thursday, December 07, 2023

Call to Order

Roll Call

Welcome to Guests

Approval of November Minutes

Sub-Committee Reports

- Multi use Trails
- Multi use Park (future)
- Pickleball

Old Business

- Parks Discussion
- Ordinance

New Business

- Tour
- What do we want to do?

Other Business

Next meeting: January 4, 2024

Mathews County Parks & Rec Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes Dec. 7th, 2023, 2pm

Chesapeake Community Room, Chesapeake Bank Mathews County

Meeting called to order by Nick Koch-Vice Chair; in attendance- Amber Moore, Earl Byrum, Dan Reno, Terry Dixon, Sharon Frye, Justin attending for Buzz-YMCA, Jean Howard; Tom Robinson and Mike Walls, Guest (MC BOS)

call to order - roll call - welcome – approval of Nov. minutes – Citizen Input

Tom Robinson has resigned as Chairman of this Advisory Committee due to health reasons. Nick Koch will remain in the Vice Chair position as of now.

We welcome Mike Walls from the BOS to our meeting. Mike would like to continue attending our meetings, it was suggested we change our meeting time to 4:30 from now on. Motion was made and seconded and all voted YES!

- Christine Johnson is leading “multi-use trails” and Nick Koch is leading on the “multi-use parks”.
- Nick reported that he spoke to the BOS at the last meeting about Pickle Ball and the need to have it in the County in another location besides inside the YMCA because you have to be member or pay a fee to play. They need to be outside and open to the Public.
- Mike Walls, MC BOS, reported that he met with Tim Tillage (County Maintenance & Facilities), Amy Oneal (Athletic Director MHS) and John (Tennis Coach). After checking out the Pickle Ball set up in Deltaville, and considering turning the Tennis Courts into multi-use Pickle Ball & Tennis Courts they decided it would not work well. He met with Amy & John and suggested re-doing all four tennis courts since they are in bad shape. He suggests that instead of spending \$65,000.00 on a patch job, spend 130,000.00 to redo 3 courts including fencing and the 4th court be turned into 4 quality Pickle Ball Courts. John, the Tennis Coach did not like the idea at all, did not want to forfeit one court, but Mike Walls said we need to accomplish getting the tennis courts in shape and establishing the PB area which would be a popular addition to Mathews County. Tim Tillage had a good idea, take away the 2 Basketball Courts, put the 4 PB courts there, close to the road so the activity would be in full view of the public and nice enough to draw PB Events to the County from all over the country. The cost to put the PB Courts there would be about \$45,000.00. We don’t want to take away from the kids though and we could move the Basketball Courts to over near the Soccer Fields where there is already a backboard. It would only be half court until we put more money into it. Mike heard from Dr. Greves that there are 2 Basketball Courts behind the Middle School near the Track. This would be an option for the kids. There are Basketball Courts inside the

YMCA too. Tennis Coach suggested taking one tennis court and turning the PB courts sidewise to fit more in a space, but Tim Tillage and Mike decided this would not work.

- Sharon Frye questioned why the YMCA charges everyone for access to the PB courts since the County gives them \$65,000.00 each year...but the Y Rep. said they had to charge a small fee to cover having an employee there.
- Nick says playing outside is very preferred to playing inside. This sport is starting to appeal to all ages, very gaining in popularity.
- Terry Dixon advised there is a smaller Basketball Court behind the Elementary School too...built for the smaller kids.
- The motion was put forward by Nick Kock and seconded by Jean Howard to accept this plan to have the PB Courts established where the Basketball Courts are now at MHS and have this submitted to Tim Tillage for consideration.

Parks Discussion:

- Mike Walls reported that adjustments have to be made to the Comp plan so that every time we try to make an addition, this will work easier. Speaking with Tim Tillage, the South Bay Haven property should be pretty easy to move forward, a suggestion was made that since we are going to put in a pier, that we put in a floating dock attached to the pier to be used for overflow parking at the Hole in the Wall where parking is such a problem with all the boat trailers. Mike Walls advised us to concentrate on South Bay Haven property which would be a great start to adding parks in the County.

New Business:

- We still need to see all the sites...the issue being there are over 20 sites, we probably need to discover them ourselves, although we will try to go in groups.
- Nick asked if we wanted to get involved with the clean ups, etc of some of the properties, talk with Tim about how we can help. Amber Moore said she would like to be involved.

Meeting adjourned at 2:56, next meeting is Jan. 4th at 4:30pm

Revised 5 Jan after meeting approval