

Mathews County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

Agenda Thursday, 4:30 PM, Aug 1, 2024

Historic Courthouse, Mathews, VA.

Call to Order, Roll Call for quorum

Approval of June Minutes, Approval of Agenda

Welcome Guests

Public comment period

Sub Committee reports

- **Multi use Trails**
- **Pickleball**
- **Future Parks**

Old Business

- Park Ordinance Changes
- Family Port Fun Day- updates and final plan
- Water Access sites review, compare with COM plan

New Business

- Sites eligible for grant funds
 - South Bay Haven - possible Blue Trails Grant (Jan)
 - East River Boat Yard
- Litter picker stations (Jan)
- Post Fun walkways (Jan)
- Ordinance 24-06 (Abandoned vessels) (Earl)
- Park signs. (Earl)
- Meeting time discussion
- Community communication
- Activities discussion

Second Public comment period

Action Items

Next meeting: TBD

Mathews County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Agenda Thursday, 4:30 PM, Aug 1, 2024
Historic Courthouse, Mathews, VA.

Call to Order, Roll Call for quorum

- Absent: Terry Dixon, Buzz Lambert

Approval of June Minutes, Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve minutes- Jan Towne, Seconded by Sharon Frye. Passed 6/0
- Motion to approve agenda- Earl Byrum, Seconded by Dan Reno. Passed 6/0

Welcome Guests and Public comment period

- Comments by John C. Lewis regarding meeting time and survey

Sub Committee reports

- Multi use Trails
- Pickleball (Nick Koch)
 - 2 new gates and new squeegee
 - Citizen has asked about League Play, no leagues have formed at this time
- Future Parks
 - Survey results
 - About 125 people responded to the survey that was posted online or available at the Port Fun Event.
 - 85% of the respondents are full time residents,12% are part time residents,57 of the respondents want to receive updates from P & R, 51 recorded email addresses. Several people volunteered to work on specific projects
 - Question #1 results: (Mathews County owns land next to the Liberty Square Government Complex. This property has a frontage on Buckley Hall Road and Glebe Road. Should Mathews County consider creating a multi-use recreational park on this site? 125 responded.77% in favor 97 -yes, 24- no, 5- no response
 - Table of specific interests attached.

Old Business

- Park Ordinance Changes
 - Tim is updating signs as needed
- Family Port Fun Day
 - Very successful event!
- Water Access sites review, compare with COM plan

- Need to synchronize county and P&R documents
- Concern expressed about fixing existing county property

New Business

- Sites eligible for grant funds
 - South Bay Haven - possible Blue Trails Grant (Jan)
 - 1. Sites Eligible for Grant Funds
 - a. South Bay Haven--the Virginia Recreational Trails Program (Federal 80/20 matching reimbursement program) awards grants in odd-numbered years (2025, 2027, etc.) for existing trail maintenance and amenities. Jan suggested applying for this program in 2025 for an accessible kayak launch (as part of the Blueways Trail).at this site. After some discussion, it was suggested to contact Mathews Land Conservancy to see if that entity would want an accessible launch at Williams Wharf.
 - b. East River Boatyard--Tim Tillage mentioned a grant is available to create the plan for the boatyard. It is a matching grant, and more funds are needed from the county. The grant expires in 2025? (not sure if it was 2025 or 2026).
 - 2. Litter Picker Stations--Jan would like to see litter picker stations at Haven Beach and Port Fun. Each station would cost approximately \$125 per station plus labor. It was suggested to contact local civic organizations to request funds.
 - 3. Port Fun--Jan said with the new rubber mulch surfacing, walkways are needed to place over the mulch to create wheelchair accessibility to access the swings and the transfer station at the large structure. She found Access A Mats on the website aaastateofplay.com which are 3' by 5' waffled, interlocking mats that create a pathway. The mats keep the mulch in place and increase accessibility. It was suggested we pursue asking civic organizations for the funds. Jan will meet with Sharon at Port Fun to assess how many mats are needed and the cost.
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- Discussion—Can Williams Wharf develop something ADA?
 - Discussion- Can there be a bike path from High School to Liberty Trail and possibly through the 63 acres?
 - East River Boat Yard
 - To be discussed by BOS
 - Ordinance 24-06 (Abandoned vessels) (Earl)
 - Discussion about condition of County piers
 - Park signs. (Earl)
 - Positive comments about new signs
 - Meeting time discussion
 - Motion by Earl Byrum to change meeting time to 7 pm, Seconded by Sharon Frye Passed 6/0 Next meeting Sept. 5
 - Community communication
 - Tom Bowen will investigate email and FB pages
 - Activities discussion
 - Reminder that Tennis Courts at MHS still in need of repair.

Second Public comment period

Action Items

Next meeting: Sept 5, 7PM, Historic Courthouse

Most Important or Important	Percentage of total responses	Number of responses
Hiking, Jogging or Cross Country Trails	77%	96
Outdoor Pool	68%	84
Accessible Playground	64%	79
Bike Trails	63%	78
Indoor Pool	62%	76
Picnic Areas	56%	69
Athletic Fields	52%	64
Dog Park	50%	59
Volleyball	46%	56
Community Garden	42%	42
Sensory Garden	36%	44
Disc Golf	36%	44
Skateboard Park	29%	35
Horseback Trail	26%	32
EV charging	24%	29
Golf range	22%	27
Shooting, skeet, trap range	18%	24