



MEETING MINUTES

DATE December 4, 2023, at 3:00 pm
LOCATION Parks & Recreation Administration Room 101
2154 Landstown Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456

1. WELCOME & ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Chair Bernick called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. Recorder Trina Harrell called the role. Chair Bernick asked the visitors to introduce themselves.

Name	Role or Association	Attend
Clay Bernick	Chair	√
Jarrold L. Katzer	Vice Chair	√
Richard "Tuck" Bowie	Committee Member	√
Vincent Bowhers	Committee Member	√
Francis Drumm	Committee Member	√
William W. Fleming	Committee Member	√
Maury Hill	Committee Member	√
Phillip Hines	Committee Member	Ab
Dianna McDowell	Committee Member	√
John Olivieri	Committee Member	√
Cecilia Kocan	Student Member	√
Gavin Wehr	Student Member	√
Liaisons		
Barbara Henley	City Council Member	√
Chris Taylor	City Council Member	
City Staff		
Michael Kirschman	Parks and Recreation	√
Chad Morris	Parks and Recreation	√
Corinna Green	Parks and Recreation	√
Trina Harrell	Parks and Recreation	√
Brooke Costanza	Parks and Recreation	√
Lucia Whitlow	City Attorney's Office	√
Guests		
Walter Camp	ATAC Chair	√
The Hancock Family	Citizens	√



2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: OCTOBER 23, 2023, MEETING

A motion made by Francis Drumm and seconded by William Fleming to approve the Minutes from the October 23rd meeting was passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. P&R maintenance of various site types – Michael Kirschman, Director
Mr. Kirschman gave a high-level overview of the various types of maintenance performed by Parks and Recreation as they relate to current and future purchases of open space properties. All properties incur an expense based on the amount of maintenance required.
- b. P&R FY25 CIP Budget submitted – Chad Morris, PDD Administrator
Mr. Morris reviewed the CIP budget timeline, recent accomplishments, projects/programs within target, and projects/programs requested above target for the FY25 budget submitted. He also confirmed the budget request includes \$2.5M earmarked for open space acquisitions. A copy of the presentation is attached.
- c. Urban Forest Management Plan Status & Open Survey – Brooke Costanza
Ms. Costanza gave a very informative overview of the urban forest management plan reviewing the calculated value of each ecosystem service, measuring the tree canopy, and the goal for Virginia Beach. She also provided the link for members to complete the survey. A copy of the presentation is attached.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Dominion Energy Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Project Tree Mitigation – Mr. Morris advised the City received approximately \$1.1M to mitigate the trees impacted by the Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project. Tree clearing will initiate in January and must be completed by April 15, 2024.
- b. OSAC vacancy – Chair Bernick advised there is currently one vacancy, and he is working with the City Clerk's Office to provide a recommendation to Council Liaison, Ms. Barbara Henley.
- c. ITA Open Space Strategies – Chair Bernick presented the findings and recommendations of the ITA Working Subgroup from meetings held in October and November. Mr. Bernick reviewed the purpose, history, and the exhaustive list of documents reviewed, including development plans and proposals. Finally, he presented the preliminary recommendations and asked the members to provide feedback. Member Vincent Bowhens, a former naval aviator, offered his expert perspective for meeting the requirements to land on an aircraft carrier and the flight pattern between Naval Auxiliary Landing Field Fentress in Chesapeake and Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach.
- d. Property under review for purchase
The owner of Saville Garden Way off Holland Road contacted the City directly to request the property be considered for purchase as open space. This 25-acre parcel located in District 2 is part of the Southern Rivers Watershed and has 24.29 acres of Forested Areas established as a Carbon Project. Carbon credits sold to City Forest Credits and is regulated by the Tree Preservation Protocol. Francis Drumm made a motion to purchase the property, seconded by William Fleming seconded, and passed on a 7-2 vote.

5. REPORTS

- a. Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation (VBPRF) – ATAC Chair Camp
 - Partnering with VBBMX for fundraising efforts for BMX facility at Dunwoody Park



- b. Green Ribbon Committee – Vincent Bowhers
 - November/December meeting combined and will meet Thursday
- c. LRNOW – Vincent Bowhers/Clay Bernick
 - Volunteer appreciation party – celebrated 3,000 volunteer hours
 - No cleanups in December
 - Recent Cleanup
 - Atlantis Apartments
 - Recent events
 - Tree replacement in Green Run and Ocean Lakes to replace lost trees
 - Overall loss was only 3%, even with very minimal maintenance
- d. Active Transportation Advisory Committee – Maury Hill/ATAC Chair Camp
 - Holiday Lights Bike Ride
 - Over 3,000 participants on November 16th bike ride
 - Resort Management Office plans to partner/promote regular bike rides on Wednesdays in the summer, Bike Month activities in May, and the overall tourism experience as it relates to biking
 - January 1st Bike Ride at the Holiday Lights on the boardwalk
 - Va School Crossing Guard Day February 7, 2024
 - Working with VBPD and Virginia Beach School Board to support and highlight safety in school zones
 - VB Trail - City Council approved \$902K to fund 100% of the engineering of the VB Trail project from Newtown Road to just east of Town Center. This was part of a larger roadway and transportation funding secured by sale proceeds from the Dominion offshore wind easements. It will also aid in establishing design and cost certainty which will help increase future grant scoring.
 - Bus tour on Monday, December 11th, 2pm – 4:30pm – Start and finish at Bayside Recreation Center, touring 32 miles of Shore Drive corridor
 - Comprehensive Plan - five major themes have arisen for the City's future
 1. Environmental sustainability - creating green space for well-being and recreation
 2. Balanced growth - support the agriculture and rural heritage of City via the Green Line
 3. Economic, cultural, and civic diversity - includes diverse city landscape
 4. Sense of community
 5. Bike, walking and transit accessibility - making these viable transit options

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- e. The Hancock family is considering all their options regarding their property and if sold, would request the grandfather, Dr. Hancock, be honored for his contributions to the Pungo/Creeds area.

7. CLOSED/OPEN SESSION

Closed Session

Chair Bernick called for motion to convene a closed session at 4:35pm to discuss properties in Voting Districts 2 and 6. Motion made by Richard "Tuck" Bowie, seconded by Maury Hill, and unanimously approved to convene into closed session.

Open Session

Chair Bernick reconvened the open meeting and called for a motion to certify the closed meeting at 5:10pm. Motion made by Francis Drumm, seconded by Vice Chair Katzer and unanimously approved to certify the closed meeting.



7. ADJOURN AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- a. Next Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting January 22nd.

There being no further business, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Jarrod Katzer and seconded by William Fleming to adjourn the meeting at 5:15pm.

Clay Bernick, Chair

Trina Harrell, Recorder

Distribution:

Mayor and City Council
Patrick Duhaney, City Manager
Parks and Recreation Commission
Open Space Advisory Committee
Kenneth Chandler, Deputy City Manager
Lucia Whitlow, City Attorney's Office
Kaitlyn James, Budget and Management Services
Kathy Warren, Planning Director
Emily Archer, Planning/SGA Office
David Trimmer, Agriculture Director
L.J. Hansen, Public Works Director
Kristal Johnson, Public Works/Real Estate
Michael Kirschman, Parks and Recreation Director
Frank Fentress, Parks and Recreation, Landscape Services
Parks and Recreation staff present



MEETING DATE: December 4, 2023

MOTION: Francis Drumm

SECOND: Jarrod Katzer

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee of the City of Virginia Beach has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code 2.2-3712 requires a certification that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A) to which this certification applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the Motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered by the Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee.

VOTE: 9-0

AYE (list by last name): Bernick, Bowhers, Bowie, Drumm, Fleming, Hill, Katzer, McDowell, and Olivieri

NAY (list by last name): N/A

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Hines

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Hines

STATEMENT OF MEMBER INDICATING SUBSTANCE OF DEPARTURE: N/A

Trina M. Harrell

Administrative Specialist II

Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee



**MODEL MOTION TO CERTIFY THE MINUTES OF A CLOSED MEETING UNDER
THE VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

The Chair will entertain a motion pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A) and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee.

(This portion below is for use by the person recording the minutes. Transfer the vote to the certificate which is to be filed with the minutes and signed by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary)

DATE: December 4, 2023

MOTION: Francis Drumm

SECOND: Jarrod Katzer

VOTE: 9-0

AYE (list by last name): Bernick, Bowhers, Bowie, Drumm, Fleming, Hill, Katzer, McDowell, and Olivieri

NAY (list by last name): N/A

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Hines

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Hines

STATEMENT OF MEMBER INDICATING SUBSTANCE OF DEPARTURE: N/A