



# MEETING MINUTES

**DATE** June 26, 2023, at 3:00 pm  
**LOCATION** Parks & Recreation Administration Room 101  
2154 Landstown Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456

## I. WELCOME & ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

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

Name	Role or Association	E-mail	Attend
Clay Bernick	Chair	<a href="mailto:cbernickiii@gmail.com">cbernickiii@gmail.com</a>	√
Francis Drumm	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:fjdrumm@gmail.com">fjdrumm@gmail.com</a>	Ab
Jarrold L. Katzer	Vice Chair	<a href="mailto:jarrod@wplsite.com">jarrod@wplsite.com</a>	√
Jill Ewell	P&R Commission Liaison	<a href="mailto:ewellhousehold@gmail.com">ewellhousehold@gmail.com</a>	Ab
John Olivieri	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:jeo@associated-development.com">jeo@associated-development.com</a>	√
Kevin Baggett	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:kbaggett@tridentcivil.com">kbaggett@tridentcivil.com</a>	Ab
Maury Hill	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:Mattcj2@msn.com">Mattcj2@msn.com</a>	√
Richard "Tuck" Bowie	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:tuckbow@terrypeterson.com">tuckbow@terrypeterson.com</a>	√
Vincent Bowhers	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:vbowhers@cox.net">vbowhers@cox.net</a>	√
William W. Fleming	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:wwfleming@hotmail.com">wwfleming@hotmail.com</a>	Ab
<b>Committee Liaisons</b>			
Barbara Henley	City Council Member	<a href="mailto:bhenley@vbgov.com">bhenley@vbgov.com</a>	
Chris Taylor	City Council Member	<a href="mailto:chtaylor@vbgov.com">chtaylor@vbgov.com</a>	
<b>City Staff</b>			
Kenneth Chandler	City Manager's Office	<a href="mailto:kchandle@vbgov.com">kchandle@vbgov.com</a>	√
Monica C. Chaparro	City Manager's Office	<a href="mailto:mchaparro@vbgov.com">mchaparro@vbgov.com</a>	√
Chad Morris	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:cmorris@vbgov.com">cmorris@vbgov.com</a>	√
Trina Harrell	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:tmharrel@vbgov.com">tmharrel@vbgov.com</a>	√
Corinna Green	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:cgreen@vbgov.com">cgreen@vbgov.com</a>	√
Dean Bowles	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:dbowles@vbgov.com">dbowles@vbgov.com</a>	√
Codi Spencer	Parks and Recreation	<a href="mailto:clspencer@vbgov.com">clspencer@vbgov.com</a>	√
Ashley Loren-Grant	City Attorney's Office	<a href="mailto:ajgrant@vbgov.com">ajgrant@vbgov.com</a>	√
<b>Guests</b>			



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Name	Role or Association	E-mail	Attend
Mindy Hughes	VB Parks and Recreation Foundation	<a href="mailto:hughescom@cox.net">hughescom@cox.net</a>	√
Walter Camp	ATAC Chair	<a href="mailto:Wtclegal_ATAC@yahoo.com">Wtclegal_ATAC@yahoo.com</a>	√



## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 22, 2023, MEETING

A motion made by Member Vincent Bowhens and seconded by Vice Chair Katzer to approve the Minutes from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was passed unanimously.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Student Representatives on OSAC Request to Council

Chair Bernick recommended the committee ask City Council to appoint two student members to OSAC. ATAC Chair Camp detailed what criteria should be included in the request and a robust discussion followed. The Committee's request will be submitted to Council through an ordinance and includes two non-voting student members with a one year term starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. Youth involvement is supported by the recommendations of the Citizens Committee on Boards and Commissions (CCBC). Chair Bernick asked for a motion for the above request. Member Tuck Bowie made the motion and Member John Olivieri seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by those present. Chair Bernick will draft a letter to City Council liaisons first requesting support of an upcoming ordinance.

### b. VA Land Conservation Foundation Grant

- FY24 grant round open with a total of \$14,125,389
- Categories include: Farmland Preservation, Historic Area Preservation, Natural Area Preservation (\$4,156,314), and Open Spaces and Parks (\$2,400,000)
- VLCF May 2023 Grant Manual
- Scoring for Open Spaces and Parks Category
  - Public Access to State Waters – 10
  - Project Location – 10
  - Scenic Resources Protection – 10
  - Alignment with Local or Regional Plans – 15
  - Virginia Outdoors Plan Need -10
  - Public Utilization – 10
  - Benefit Underserved Community – 15
  - Recreation Need – 10
  - ConserveVirginia – 10
  - Maximum Score of 100 points

Ms. Green advised the FY24 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant round opened with over \$14M available and she reviewed the five categories. Next, she discussed the scoring criteria for the Open Spaces and Parks Category. The grant round will close at 4:00pm on Friday, August 18, 2023. Both Chair Bernick and Vice Chair Katzer offered to assist in writing sections of the grant application. Additional information, including the grant manual, is available at <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land-conservation/vlcf>.

### c. City Council Annual Report

The CCBC created a standardized template for all appointed groups to use when creating their annual report, which is due by August 31, 2023. Chair Bernick suggested members form a work group to produce OSAC's annual report to ensure the deadline is met. Vice Chair



Katzer and Member Vincent Bowhens volunteered to assist Chair Bernick in completing the annual report. Chair Bernick will follow up with those members not in attendance for additional support.

d. First Earth 2030 Carbon Credit Property Potential Dedication

Chair Bernick reminded the members First Earth 2030 gave a very educational presentation to the Committee at the January 23, 2023, meeting regarding carbon credits. Chair Bernick recently learned of a potential donation of property to the City that is in the Holland Road corridor. The owners offering the proposed donation recently applied for Carbon Credits for a wooded 20 acre parcel. The family has now expressed interest in donating the property for open space and conservation purposes. Members in attendance are in support of acquiring this property. Chair Bernick will draft a short letter of support and list the property restrictions.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

e. Evaluation criteria

The members reviewed each section of the evaluation criteria and a discussion regarding the Development Considerations followed. There were no comments pertaining to the other five criteria. Ms. Green will follow up with Vice Chair Katzer.

f. Parks & Trails on VB Map

Ms. Green gave an informative tutorial how to access the Parks and Trails maps on the VB Map through the City's new website [www.virginiabeach.gov](http://www.virginiabeach.gov). The steps are listed below:

- Services -> Map Center (do not click on Center for GIS)
- VB Map
- Add Data button
- Search 'virginia beach parks'
- Add "VB Park Property: Feature Service by VBCGIS\_OrgAcct1"
- Search 'virginia beach trails'
- Add "Bikeways and Trails: Feature Service by VBCGIS\_OrgAcct1"

g. OSAC letter of Support for Rudee Loop

Chair Bernick thanked Ms. Green for sending the letter of support for Rudee Loop to all City Council members via email on June 5<sup>th</sup>. He also confirmed all Committee members were copied.

h. Joint Parks and Environmental Meeting planned for July 26<sup>th</sup>

Plans are moving forward to hold a Joint Parks and Environmental Meeting 3:00pm – 5:00pm on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the new Great Neck Indoor Facility at Great Neck Park. If confirmed, Chair Bernick asked the members if they would prefer to cancel the July OSAC meeting so members could attend the Joint Meeting. Even though a few members had scheduling conflicts, most members present agreed attending the Joint Meeting would be beneficial and support canceling the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Additional information will be sent once available.

i. Trust for Public Land recently released the 2023 ParkScores and Virginia Beach ranked 49<sup>th</sup>, down from 41<sup>st</sup> in 2022.

j. Chair Bernick will follow up with Recorder Trina Harrell to confirm the November/December meeting has been scheduled.



- k. To help clarify all departments/staff involved, Chair Bernick requested a flow chart to detail how a property considered for purchase or donation moves through the process. Members are concerned we are overloading staff with too many responsibilities. Ms. Green briefed the members on the Acquisition Process already compiled.

## **V. REPORTS**

- l. Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation (VBPRF) – Mindy Hughes
- Voted to receive \$150K for park improvements at Seatack and Bay Colony parks
  - Meeting on Saturday to have a visioning session with the Seatack neighborhood
  - Upcoming Bay Colony meetings to discuss playground improvements
  - A dedication for Mary's Garden was held at 2pm on June 16<sup>th</sup> with many staff and family present. This garden, funded by donations and the Foundation, is in memory of Mary Prier, who died suddenly last year, and was instrumental in launching the bike rack program and served as the Foundation's staff liaison.
  - Looking forward to collaborating at the Joint Parks and Environmental Meeting
- m. Green Ribbon Committee – Vincent Bowhers
- Met last Thursday and supports attending the Joint Parks and Environmental Meeting
  - Discussions also on the Green Line/SW Management/Wayne's project
  - Working on the annual report and legislative agenda
- n. Lynnhaven River NOW – Vincent Bowhers/Clay Bernick
- Removed over 900 lbs. of debris during the Clean the Bay Day Cleanup at Hutton Circle Launch
  - Completed a living shoreline on the western branch of the Elizabeth River
  - Replanting Trees that did not survive at Green Run and Ocean Lakes
  - Marsh island restoration and more tree planting coming up this fall
- o. Active Transportation Advisory Committee – Maury Hill
- Bike Month activities
    - Bike to School Day – organized in 6 days by kindergarten teacher
    - Mayor's Proclamation of Bike Month
    - Marshview Bike Chain Cutting ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, at 2pm
  - Anticipate grant award announcements on Wednesday (Nimmo Pkwy & VB Trail)
  - Working on the next VB Trail grant application
  - Site (bike) tour will be July 10<sup>th</sup> – starting and ending at Marshview Park with stops at Rudee Loop, Shadowlawn Sidepaths, and Lake Holly/South Beach Trail
  - Dominion Energy transmission line trail – meetings and a recent tour with Mr. Chad Morris, other City staff, and Dominion Energy. Maps are almost completed.
  - Rock Church property – potential connector to Courthouse Estates

## **VI. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

- p. New York Times Essay by Robert Langellier: When Chopping Down Trees Is a Gift to the Environment



- q. Open Floor  
Vice Chair Katzer suggested discussions with stormwater engineers from his office could be beneficial.

## VII. ADJOURN AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- r. Next Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting (July 24<sup>th</sup>) will be canceled if the Joint Parks and Environmental Meeting is held. Tentatively scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:37pm.

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Clay Bernick, Chair

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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  
Michael Evans, Budget and Management Services  
Kathy Warren, Interim 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