



MEETING MINUTES

DATE December 2, 2024, at 3:00 pm
LOCATION Parks and Recreation Administration Building
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.

Name	Role or Association	Attend
Clay Bernick	Chair	√
Jarrold L. Katzer	Vice Chair	√
Richard "Tuck" Bowie	Committee Member	Ab
Vincent Bowhers	Committee Member	√
Francis Drumm	Committee Member	√
William W. Fleming	Committee Member	√
Maury Hill	Committee Member	√
Dianna McDowell	Committee Member	√
John Olivieri	Committee Member	√
Jenny Perry	Committee Member	√
Stephen Rockefeller	Committee Member	√
Gavin Wehr	Student Member	√
Cooper Stuart	Student Member	Ab
Liaisons		
Barbara Henley	City Council Member	
Chris Taylor	City Council Member	
City Staff		
Ken Chandler	City Manager's Office	√
Chad Morris	Parks and Recreation	√
Corinna Green	Parks and Recreation	√
Trina Harrell	Parks and Recreation	√
Lucia Whitlow	Parks and Recreation	√
Ashley Loren-Grant	City Attorney's Office	√
Kevin Chatellier	Budget and Management Services	√
Tim Copeland	Public Works - Real Estate	√
Guests		

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 28, 2024

A motion made by Francis Drumm and seconded by John Olivieri to approve the October 28, 2024, minutes, passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. VLCF Grant Announcement – Ms. Green announced on November 27th, 2024, Virginia Beach was awarded \$650K for the Hancock North Landing Open Space Land Conservation Grant application submitted in August. Virginia Beach also received \$100K for the Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area application. Overall, Governor Glenn Youngkin awarded \$14.4M in Land Conservation Grants protecting 11,220 acres through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation. Chair Bernick and members present expressed their appreciation for Ms. Green's diligence in writing and submitting a successful application.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Vice Chair Katzer provided a draft of the member handbook created and briefly reviewed the format. He asked members to review and provide comments by the end of the year so all comments could be incorporated, and a final product be presented at the January meeting. The electronic version will be sent to all members in the next week or so.
- b. Budget Schedule – Mr. Morris provided a high-level review of the budget schedule and briefly discussed the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Budget submission.

5. REPORTS

- a. City Council Liaisons – no report
- b. Student Members
 - Participated in recent cleanup at Lochaven Park
 - Will participate in upcoming land conservation symposium on Friday
- c. Parks and Recreation Commission – The FoxFire Trail grand opening was held on November 22nd at FoxFire Park and has been utilized by several citizens already.
- d. Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation (VBPRF) – no report
- e. Green Ribbon Committee – No report. A representative from OSAC is still needed. If interested, contact Chair Bernick or Vince Bowhers.
- f. LRNOW – Vincent Bowhers
 - November Cleanups:
 - Oceanfront, Mt Trashmore/Lake Windsor, Pecan Gardens Park, and Adopt a Spots.
 - 99 volunteered 256 hours, 1,371 lbs. of debris removed
 - December 2023 – November 2024: 70 cleanups, 2,961 volunteer hours, and 23,188 lbs. of debris removed.
 - Next Cleanup at Francis Land House on January 11th.
 - Native Wreath Workshop on December 6th & 7th at Brock Environmental Center
 - Bird Walk at Pleasure House Point on December 7th
 - Volunteer Appreciation Party at Great Neck Park Pavilion on December 8th
- g. Active Transportation Advisory Committee – Maury Hill
 1. Public Works presented the Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety report
 - a. Pedestrian improvements are planned for the north end of Atlantic Avenue
 - b. Bike and pedestrian improvements are planned on Pleasure House Road
 - c. HAWK (High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk) signals are planned at Cape Henry Trail at Great Neck Road and Cavalier Hotel. Fully operational by the end of 2025.
 2. VB Trail Phase 1 walk, Newtown Rd to Town Center (3 miles), December 9th, 1:00pm
 3. The VB Trail is moving forward.
 4. Thalia Creek Greenway Trail is experiencing a delay due to timber shortage but is expected to be completed by January 2026.
- h. Workgroups – no report

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments.

7. CLOSED/OPEN SESSION

Closed Session
Chair Bernick called for motion to convene a closed session at 3:18pm to discuss properties in Voting Districts 2, 3, and 9. Motion made by Jarred Katzer, seconded by Francis Drumm, 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 4:04pm. Motion made by Jarrod Katzer, seconded by John Olivieri, and unanimously approved to certify the closed meeting.

8. ADJOURN AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- a. Ms. Green reviewed VB Map online and showed how to toggle on/off different aspects
- b. Advancing Land Conservation in Hampton Roads December 6th, 9am – 1pm
- c. Winter Wildlife Festival – January 24th – February 2nd, 2025
- d. Next Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting January 27th, 2025

There being no further business, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by John Olivieri and seconded by Jarrod Katzer to adjourn the meeting at 4:25pm.

H.C. Bernick, III

Clay Bernick, Chair

Trina M. Harrell

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
Michael Kirschman, Parks and Recreation Director
Frank Fentress, Parks and Recreation, Landscape Services
Parks and Recreation staff present

MEETING DATE: December 2, 2024

MOTION: Jarrod Katzer

SECOND: John Olivieri

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: 10-0

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

NAY (list by last name): N/A

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Bowie

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Bowie

STATEMENT OF MEMBER INDICATING SUBSTANCE OF DEPARTURE: N/A

Trina M. Harrell

Administrative Specialist II

Parks and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee