

COBB COUNTY RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

October 8, 2024

Cobb County PARKS Recreation Board – October 8, 2024, 6:00 PM

Present:	Absent:	PARKS Staff Present:
Jill Flamm	Nathan Wade	Michael Brantley
John Pape	Kennal Mond	Derrell Walker
Michael Edwards	Bill Carver	Jordan Woods
Demetrius Lockett		Barbara Savage
Elliott Hennington		Michael Chandler
Wynn McCurdy		Giselle Jaquez

I. CALL TO ORDER

Demetrius Lockett called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

II. INVOCATION

Elliott Hennington opened the meeting with a prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Wynn McCurdy and the Rec Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF July 9, 2024, MINUTES

MOTION: Motion made by Demetrius Lockett and seconded by Elliot Hennington to approve the July 9, 2024 Recreation Board minutes as submitted.

Michael Brantley clarifies that minutes are not recorded if there is no quorum.

VOTE: 6-0; Nathan Wade, Kennal Mond, and Bill Carver were absent for the vote.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – Morning Washburn – Congratulated everyone involved in the nomination of Hyde Farm to the National Register of Historic Places on Aug. 28th.

VI. Services Division Update: Mark Chandler, Tennis Program Manager was introduced by Demetrius Lockett- Presented information about the Tennis Program at PARKS.

Tennis:

PARKS has 6 Tennis centers and 13 satellite locations. In total, we have 108 tennis courts.

- Fair Oaks Tennis center was the first Tennis center in Cobb. We just celebrated its 50th year anniversary on June 1st.
- Pickleball – We have 55 pickleball courts and 33 dedicated pickleball courts which does not include the Recreation Centers where we have 8 additional courts shared with the gymnasium.

Programming:

- Instruction- Tennis/pickleball classes called Level UP Program. We offer private and team lessons, group drill sessions, junior development programs, and tennis academies.
- Competitive- Leagues – USTA/ ALTA/ Cobb; Tournaments – USTA/UTR
- Social Community Outreach- Round Robins Socials, Family Tennis Days, Atlanta Youth Tennis and Educational Foundation, and Cobb Therapeutics

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- League Play – ALTA has about 80,000 members, making it the largest local tennis league in the world. Cobb tennis facilities host league play for USTA and ALTA, with nearly 400 teams utilizing Cobb facilities as a home site. Both ALTA/USTA now offer pickleball leagues.
- Tournaments- Cobb facilities host up to 60 USTA/ UTR tournaments annually. Highlights include the National Level 2 tournament at Harrison Tennis Center in May, Harrison Fall Junior Championships (Level 5) in August with over 360 players competing at 4 of our 6 tennis centers. We also had the Kennworth National Wheelchair Tournament, and numerous UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) tournaments held at the centers.
- The Cobb PARKS Tennis Program is an award-winning program. Awards include: 2023 Community Outreach Award by the Georgia Professional Tennis Association; The Atlanta Youth Tennis and Education Foundation, based out of Fair Oaks Tennis Center, was named the National Junior Tennis League Chapter of the Year for 2022 by the United States Tennis Association – Georgia; USTA National 12s Level 2 tournament at Harrison Tennis Center named 2019 Junior Tournament of the Year by USTA-Georgia.

VII. SPLOST UPDATES

Barbara Savage

- SPLOST Budget Update:
2011 Projects – 98% Completed: 2% Future Projects. (Felton, Fullers, Hyde, and Mt. Bethel)
2016 Projects – 83% Completed; 2% Design; 3% Under Construction; 12% Future Project (Future Project: Hyde) All projects are underway currently.
2022 Projects – 85% Future; <3% Completed; >6% Construction Underway; <6% Design/Engineering (Future Projects: Aquatic Centers, Technology Improvements, Ebenezer Downs, and Noonday Park Restroom)

Project Summary: 2011

- SPLOST Budget Update:
- Power-Jackson Cabin – Cabin has been dismantled and moved to Hyde Farm. The salvage materials are being stored in the Welcome Center garage. The new location will be between the Dolvin House and the terraces.
- Fullers Mustang Field – The infield will be converted to synthetic turf. The lights are also being converted to LED under a separate project. 2011 SPLOST funds are \$92k. The association will pay the difference of \$229k. The design kickoff meeting will take place on Friday and construction will start June 2025.

Project Summary 2016:

Milford Recreation Center

- The new name is based on a community vote by Commissioner Sheffield. The interior concrete for the floors is complete and the exterior framing and sheathing is being installed. The roofing has started and we are still on track to complete mid-March as there was no problems with the site during the storm.

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PARKS Maintenance Building –

- The slab has been poured, including the utility rough-in. The preliminary site work is complete. We are expecting pre-engineered metal building next week and we are still on track to complete January 2025.

Stout Barn-

- The park is officially open, and a lot of people are visiting. The Sheriff's Mounted Unit is currently in the barn.

Price Bridge-

- The engineer is doing a feasibility study to determine if bridge can go outside the roadway bridge and connect all four sides of the park.

Project Summary: 2022

- Aquatics Centers Improvements –Mountain View opened on October 1st per schedule which included a restroom remodeled by PARKS construction crew. The new bulkhead is expected in January 2025. West Cobb starts February 1, 2025, and will include renovations of the restrooms as well.
- Big Shanty Park- Pickleball courts and parking were added. The project is complete except for trees and grass which will be installed later this fall. The courts are being heavily used.
 - Sanitary Sewer Improvements are complete. The park is fully operational.
- Gymnasium Floor Replacements- South Cobb (wood); Fullers and Fair Oaks (synthetic) floors are complete. Ron Anderson is set to be completed by October 28th. These floors are the new PARKS standard for striping. The replacement of Ward Recreation Center floor will be done with the building renovation next year.
- Wallace and Lost Mountain Synthetic Turf- We are currently advertising for construction bids. The pre-bid is tomorrow, and the bids are due on October 24th. We expect to begin construction by mid-February 2025 with a 6-month construction duration.

Various 2022 Projects:

- Civic Center HVAC Controls: We received a proposal to replace the entire controls system which was around \$350k. We are currently looking at options and going back to get the scope from the designer in order to bid it out.
- Lighting Upgrades – Hubert Park is complete. All the lights at Fullers are changed out. The panels at Mustang Field are also changed out. The equipment is on order at Mud Creek Soccer Complex.

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- Fullers Tennis Courts ADA Access- The survey is in work and the designer is on board pending the completion of the survey.
- Mable House Art Center Kiln Room Ventilation- The existing ventilation system was modified and is being monitored due to a smell that was detected. Equipment purchased that will flow fumes from the bottom of the kiln directly to the vent in the wall which PARKS will install.
- Wild Horse Creek Picnic Shelter- A contract will go to the BOC for approval on November 21. Once we have the go-ahead, we anticipate four-months for completion.

VIII. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Jordan Wood

Capital Programs:

- Jennie T. Anderson Theater
 - Project is complete.
- Al Bishop Parking Expansion
 - This project was completed just in time for the Fair.
- Mountain View Aquatic Center
 - The locker rooms were remodeled, which includes new flooring, fixtures, mirrors, ceiling tiles, and fresh paint. We have received great feedback so far.
- Civic Center
 - Doors are in transit and will be installed upon arrival. We have all other materials.
 - We won an award for Outstanding Capital Project under \$500K for the Wallace Park Mini-Pitch.
 - We hosted the NRPA Offsite Institute at Discovery Park on Nov. 7th which was a collaborative effort with the Trust for Public Land and Cobb DOT. Members from all over the country attended.

Derrell Walker

Operations

Landscaping Unit

- We assisted in removing 2 dead trees from Cobblestone Golf Course and continue with cleaning the retention ponds in various parks. We have also sprayed all parks with pre-emergent and weed killer.

Bishop Zone

- The focus in this zone has been maintenance for the upcoming Fair.

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Mountain Zone

- We cleaned up storm debris and multiple downed trees in various parks.
- Baseball, softball, and soccer associations will continue to have games during the week and on Saturdays throughout the fall.

Mark Chandler

Services Division:

Special Events Unit

- October 17th – Cobb Goes Pink Brunch – This is a program for employees who are past or present warriors and/or recognizing a family member or friend that is a warrior.
- October 19th – Keep Cobb Beautiful – Paint Recycling Event held from 9am-12pm at Jim Miller
- October 23rd-26th – Haunted House from 5-9pm at Jim Miller

Aquatics:

- Mountain View Aquatic Center is open! We have resurfaced the pool and renovated the locker rooms with new floors, partitions, and mirrors.

Tennis Unit:

- Registration for fall classes in progress. Classes begin the week of October 28th.

Natural Resources:

- Work Day at Hyde Farm on October 10th is a partnership with Foodwell Alliance and Mercedes Benz
- Girls in PARKS Day at Hyde – November 9th – This is a program to inspire and empower girls to experience outdoor recreation.
- Natural Resources has completed 24 school programs at Cheathan Hill, Varner and Garrison Mill.

Arts:

- Harvest Festival will take place on October 12 at the Mable House.

Michael Brantley

PARKS Update:

- North Georgia State Fair- Overall very good fair. We had to shut down for 2 days due to the storm. Even with 2-day shut down, this was the 4th biggest Fair of all time.
- Storm Update: The County was shut down at lunch time Thursday afternoon.
- All-star game is coming to Atlanta next year which comes with a lot of fanfare. The MLB and Braves are throwing out Legacy Projects that they would like to do around Atlanta/Cobb County area. One of the projects is the renovation of South Side Park in Atlanta in honor of Hank Aaron. They have asked Cobb what we would like and, after visiting some parks

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last Friday, we think we may have come up with a good Legacy Project. I will not spoil in case it does go through for any reason. I will say it will be diamond centric.

- Jordan did an excellent job with the NRPA Offsite Institute. It was a way for Cobb County to showcase the Chattahoochee Riverlands Project to the rest of the country. Because of this event, we were able to get 25 passes to the NRPA Conference and share the passes with staff. This was a great opportunity for staff to network.
- It is election year, and a lot of our facilities are election sites. We will be manning the Emergency Operations Center on Election Day.
- There are some staff changes taking place, specifically in Arts.

-Michael announced Robert Edwards as the new Special Events Manager.

-The Recreation Board posed for a picture.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Demetrius Lockett to adjourn at 7:16p.m.