

**Virginia Recreation and Park Society
Central Service Area Meeting – April 25, 2019
PARK365, Richmond
Minutes**

Attendees: Heather Clement, Jeff Bona, Ben Fairbanks, Sharon Entsminger, CJ Daniel, AJ McCage, Tabitha Martinez, Aaron Reidmiller, Katie Davis, Sureatha McGhee, Barbara McKitrick, D.J. Martin, Greg Sager

Business Meeting

Heather called the Business Meeting to order. Nil is out on paternity leave.

Roundtable introductions.

Minutes: Minutes from the Feb. 2019 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: 2019 budget has zero activity, to date. Pickleball tournament and workshop are planned fundraisers for later in the year.

Review of CSA goals for 2019: Discussion of inviting members and non-members to meetings. Local large departments are only represented by one or two members. Idea to have after hours social. Another idea is to have other staff to attend and share information/have speakers. Have activities after the meeting - done in the past: archery, kayak, disc golf, hike. Idea to arrange trips to other localities to see facilities.

Bring a friend to the August meeting, perhaps have an incentive.

Katie mentioned that she did not know how to get info about the meeting. Sharon to check on CSA email list. Emails could come from individuals instead of VRPS, via Constant Contact. Can VRPS post meeting reminders on the VRPS website and e-updates?

Question about the blog, do we want to continue it? Discussion ended to close the blog because of dated posts and not much involvement.

CSA Group Meeting

Roundtable introductions.

Chair's Report:

Nil is on leave.

Events:

- Management Conference – Held in Suffolk this past week. Included festivals and events. It was long – four days. Showcase of entertainers included. Management portion was good as well.

- Senior Games – Looking for help with track and field on May 18. Field events need the most assistance. See Henrico staff if you are interested in assisting with a specific activity. Idea to ask Sportsbackers and Richmond Roadrunners for assistance. Events are hosted in Henrico.
- VRPS Annual Conference – Sept. 7-10 in Tysons Corner in Northern Virginia. Early registration ends April 30. Foundation scholarships deadline is April 30. Awards early deadline is April 30. Lunch for CSA during conference, location TBA. Kim Turner will have President's Suite.
- Pickleball Tournament – Sept. 21 at new facility in Chesterfield – CTC@Hull. No shade, participants will be encouraged to bring tents. Registration will open this summer. Advance registration only. All ages. Preparation the week of the event. Day of the event is when assistance is needed. Set-up approx. 6 am, games start at 9 am, runs until about 6 pm.
- Special Events workshop – committee working on it. Nov. 6 at Meadow Event Park. Use of facility at no charge. Lunch there and a facility tour. Meadow Event staff willing to speak. Still working on the content of the workshop. Tabitha, AJ and Heather working on it. Emergency planning (speaker from ODU at management conference) as a topic. Behind the scenes info. Special Events resource group did a survey on topics of interest. ABC licensing info. Add "save the date" to e-updates – Heather will follow-up on this.

Treasurer's Report: No activity at this point.

Reports of Committees and Liaisons

Board of Trustees Update:

Board meeting last week. Ballot info is due soon because conference is in Sept. Three board positions opening. Rita Miller – lay member – term ending. Looking for another member. Board is happy with CSA and activities.

Foundation:

Cole scholarships closed with no applicants. One applicant last year for Reynolds scholarship. Will re-advertise the Cole scholarship in the fall while students are in school. Conference scholarship applicants – 15 to be awarded, 11 applications received, to date. Education endowment surpassed \$110,000. Trying to reach \$250,000 to attract other organizations to contribute. Finalizing bequeathment policy. Hoping to launch in July. Foundation has revamped their flyer. Look for it.

Resource Groups:

- Therapeutic Recreation – Goal is to hold a workshop, not just for P&R professionals in that group
- Park Operations – Meeting today. Working on conference track.
- Seniors – Wellness expo at Senior Games. Workshop in the fall, moves around the state.
- Special Events – Meeting in June in Henrico (Standing committee, not a full resource group)

Next CSA Meetings:

Goochland – Aug. 22

Colonial Heights – Dec. 12

Roundtable Discussions

Happenings in localities:

Henrico: revamping park signage, color coding. Working on Senior Games and Fourth of July logistics. Groundbreaking for aquatic center with YMCA, have not operated pools before. Pre-master plan for Belmont Golf Course – public input meeting process. Lot of community invested in golf course. Will remain public land. Visit for CAPRA coming. Concerts in May – Weekend on Wednesdays.

Dinwiddie: No smoking on grounds at any facilities – difficult task. Includes no smoking in your car. How can you police that? Includes vaping. Pickleball is big, held on indoor courts. Hired new sports manager.

Goochland: Held annual pickleball tournament – became more of an advanced tournament. Had a cheering section. Getting ready for camps - half day and full day. Parents still want child care. Fourth of July festival. Fast tracking a dog park. Also experiencing signage issues in parks.

Chesterfield: Opened new dog park at Goynes Park, phase I – small dog area. Phase II – large dog area and Phase III – agility course to be open this summer. Good coverage and lots of dogs attended. Opening new pickleball tournament facility at CTC@Hull next week, 12 courts. Chesterfield LIVE! music festival is May 25 at County Fairgrounds, includes Richmond Symphony and three other bands. Food, beer, vendors and children’s entertainment is also available. Tonight, Musco lighting demonstration at Daniel Park at Iron Bridge. Paul Wilmoth has changed positions and is our Sports Tourism Coordinator. In process of hiring for his former position of Senior Athletics Specialist.

Hopewell: Opening Riverwalk – 1,700’ boardwalk starts at City Park, follows shoreline of Appomattox River. Parking issues because of the crowds. Park rules – has been fodder on social media. Easter Egg Hunt, Beer Fest recently. Concert series coming up. Fireworks, and summer camps. BBQ festival – June 1, City taking more active role.

Colonial Heights: Coming up cardboard regatta and summer camps. TR program completed one year and is growing. TR approved to be in schools. VSU students can do contact hours with the TR program. AJ says it’s kick ass. Completing a rebuild on HS tennis courts. Middle school courts will be renovated this summer, both to include pickleball. New restroom building at White Bank Park. Working with Maddy Mann foundation on playground at White Bank Park. Kick-off of spring sports.

Richmond: Last year, the Send a Kid to Camp program raised \$40,000 for summer camp scholarships from a Radiothon. The cost of the summer camp was \$250 for the nine-week program. Also sending kids on field trips. Renaming boulevard for Arthur Ashe coming up, date TBA.

Hanover: Musical concert with Richmond Symphony – Mother’s Day weekend. Tomato Festival second weekend in July, 41st event. Selling property (historic). Searching for other parkland. \$ for new park construction. Pole Green to get outdoor pickleball courts. Also recreation center and library to be built in Montpelier – design stage now. 21,000 square feet.

Thanks to PARK365 for hosting.

Adjourned meeting.

Tour of facility followed. Attendees invited to lunch.