

# **Virginia Recreation and Park Society Central Service Area Meeting - Feb. 28, 2019 Stonebridge Recreation Center - Chesterfield Minutes**

Attendees: Nil Patel, Heather Clement, Jeff Bona, Ben Fairbanks, Torrance Archie, Sharon Entsminger, Paul Wilmoth, Mark Pinney, Dr. James Worsley, CJ Daniel, AJ Barksdale, Tabitha Martinez, Charles Hester, Matt Spruill

## **Business Meeting**

Members of the Senior Leadership Team from Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation welcomed the VRPS members to the facility.

Nil called the Business Meeting to order.

Roundtable introductions.

Minutes: Motion by Jeff to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Paul. Minutes from the Dec. 2018 meeting were approved with amendments.

Treasurer's Report: Surplus funds from 2018 that were designated for Management Conference were moved to VRPS Annual Conference registration. Apparently, the deadline for Management Conference scholarships had passed. 2019 budget has zero activity, to date.

Review of CSA goals for 2019: See the attachment. Nil reviewed the goals for this year.

Inviting members to meetings. Social event for networking.

Utilizing communications methods to reach out to members: website, social media

Keep fundraising events: pickleball tournament and workshop. Pickleball Tournament is set for Sept. 21 in Chesterfield.

The Sept. 2018 workshop was cancelled due to weather. Tabitha has tried many times to set a new date with the speakers and cannot reach a common date. Idea is to use those speakers and that topic at a later time, perhaps in the fall. Idea for special events as a topic for our workshop in the future. Options for venues: Richmond Raceway and Meadow Event Park. Heather is interested in spearheading. Kings Dominion is also interested. Parney from the Richmond Squirrels would probably be involved. Possibly October as a time for a special events workshop. Matt said the topic of special events would be a workshop of interest for many VRPS members.

Mark mentioned contact with Virginia State University and their need for speakers for an event.

Brief discussion on increasing attendance at meetings. There is support for this.

## **CSA Group Meeting**

Nil called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Welcome to Chesterfield – Stonebridge Recreation Center.

Roundtable introductions.

Chair's Report:

Goals for 2019 and increase excitement in the CSA.

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 – May 15 in Henrico. Today is early deadline. Volunteer signup on VRPS website. See Henrico staff if you are interested in assisting with a specific activity.
- VRPS Annual Conference – Sept. 7-10 in Northern Virginia
- Pickleball Tournament – Sept. 21 at new facility in Chesterfield. Potential for media coverage. Registration starts in the summer and fills quickly
- Workshop for fall – possibly October
- NRPA – Sept. 24-26 in Baltimore, MD
- IFEA – Sept. 25-27 in Williamsburg, VA

Goals will be available to the CSA membership, as part of the minutes and will be posted to the website.

Treasurer's Report: No activity at this point.

## Reports of Committees and Liaisons

Board of Trustees Update:

Matt reported that the Awards Program made changes to the population category. Instead of Greater than 100,000, the categories are now 100,001-200,000 and Greater than 200,000. Strategic Plan discussion. Conference is still looking for speakers. Legislative update – child care issue should move forward in a positive manner.

TR Resource Group: Meeting was held recently in Colonial Heights. Discussion about programs, VASTRA sub-group with special interest, internships. Looking at planning a workshop.

Mark suggested providing a lanyard for CSA members to wear at the conference. Mark will check pricing, based on the number of CSA members in attendance at the conference. Matt also mention ribbons for name badges might be a good and cost-effective idea.

Social event for CSA members. Nil will head this up.

Next CSA Meetings:

Soar365 Park (formerly ARC) – April 25

Goochland – Aug. 22

Colonial Heights – Dec. 12

Roundtable Discussions

Happenings in localities:

*Henrico:* Working on senior games, hiring for summer camps. 75 of 300 staff are hired. Securing 18 schools, submitted for CAPRA. New facility coming next door to Eastern Henrico Rec Center - a pool with YMCA and libraries. Belmont Recreation Center undergoing some changes – conversations are beginning. Heather and Jeff attended Western Service Area and spoke regarding handling the annual conference. Drive-in movie at Crump Park, expecting a large crowd. Showing “Christopher Robin”. Sign project.

*Chesterfield:* Youth basketball program ending – approx. 7,500 children participating. Challenge with staffing the facilities. Summer camp hiring will be happening this spring. New staff person hired as River City Sportsplex operations manager – Brandon Ashe. New Sports Tourism Coordinator to be hired. Sports tourism season has begun – approx. 30 events we are involved with this year. Pickleball courts facility to be opened this spring – CTC @ Hull. Coming events: Kite Day at River City Sportsplex, Movie Nights. One movie night at large flag location near I-95. Virginia Credit Union secured as sponsor for five years for \$100,00 for special events. Buying a movie screen for department.

*Hopewell:* working on soccer and baseball. Easter Egg Hunt coming up with over 7,000 eggs plus an egg toss.

*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:* Looking at CAPRA accreditation. Charles mentioned the value of Foundation membership and encouraged non-members to join. Current membership is at 120.

Thanks to Chesterfield for hosting.

Adjourned meeting.

Tour of facility followed. Attendees invited to lunch.