



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2019

PUBLISHED BY: AMY RICKMAN
PHONE: 678-297-6102
WWW.ALPHARETTA.GA.US

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commission Chair Dennis Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- Commission members present: Sandy Barth, Shuntel Beach, Dana Davis, Scott Doll, Dennis Mitchell, Cheryl Rand, Jit Saha
- Commission absent: Melissa Jurgens, Kevin Johnson
- City staff present: Department Director Morgan Rodgers, Wills Park Manager Matt Casey, Project Manager Kurt Kirby, Park Services Manager Eric Milley, Community Services Manager Amanda Musilli, Recreation Services Manager Christine Young, Cultural Services Manager Kim Zane, Administrative Assistant II Amy Rickman
- City Council:

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2019

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to approve the minutes of October 8, 2019 as written.
Second by Scott Doll.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS – none

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- No commission workshops in November, December; January 29 workshop will be dedicated to discussion about capital budgets.
- Commission Holiday Dinner – plans underway; more details to follow from staff
- **Updated Park Rules** – Morgan Rodgers:
 - o Discussion occurred during several commission workshop sessions
 - o Latest proposal for new park rules dated November 4, 2019
 - o Staff reviewed; recommendation for approval by Recreation Commission
 - o If approved, would move to City Council workshop for further discussion
 - o Due to being a change to a city ordinance, next step would require two readings at City Council meetings, with changes still available
 - o Once approved by council, timeline for new signage would be mid-March
 - o Comments – Members appreciate the positive approach to communicating rules to public, for folks to be able to enjoy city parks and be safe.
 - o Vote:
 - Motion by Jit Saha to approve the proposed new park rules as written. Second by Scott Doll.
 - No further discussion.
 - **All in favor. Motion carried**
- **2020 Wills Park Pool Fees Proposal** – Cara Prell, Supervisor of Aquatics
 - o Pool fee prices reviewed with commissioners at recent workshop session
 - o Current daily fees:
 - Child 3 & under: Free ... Ages 4-49: \$5 ... Age 50+: \$1
 - No difference in resident/non-resident fees
 - o Proposal to offer resident discount for general admission fees, starting 2020:
 - Child 3 & under: Free
 - Ages 4-54 ... General Admission: \$8; Resident Rate: \$5
 - Ages 55+ ... General Admission: \$2; Resident Rate: \$1
 - New procedure to offer general admission rate, with discounted resident rate available through address verification in City's GIS
 - Adjustments will need to be worked through with discretion by staff
 - o Comments – How will camp groups be charged? Based on camp location
 - o Vote:
 - Motion by Scott Doll to approve Wills Park Pool fees as proposed, starting with 2020 season. Second by Dana Davis.
 - No further discussion.
 - **All in favor. Motion carried**
 - o Morgan Rodgers – Pool fees are within the purview of Recreation Commission to set; email will be sent by Morgan to City Council regarding fee changes.

- **Wills Park Trail System Signage Plan** – Cara Prell, Supervisor of Health/Wellness
 - o Morgan Rodgers – Mayor and Council appropriated budgetary funds for park signage; part of funds designated for wayfinding. Public interest is strong for knowing trail lengths at Wills Park, so Cara was charged to work with city's consultant to develop a plan for trail signage at the park.
 - o Overview of Plan:
 - Production of signs to start in December; 4-week timeline to complete
 - Three new kiosks at park entrances to highlight trail maps
 - Trailhead kiosks located near community garden, behind community center at loop trail, and at Wacky World Playground
 - Three park trails assigned different colors and distances
 - Purple – Alpharetta Community Center loop trail (.2 miles)
 - Green – Park trail (1.75 miles)
 - Red – Park trail (1.25 miles)
 - Signage concept design
 - Tall signs, pedestrian directional
 - Short signs, mileage markers
 - Color coded for trails
 - Comments – Could trail mileage be noted along the way, possibly added to the directional signs? Will add to discussion for final signage; education of public will also be through new trail maps produced in partnership with the Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau.
 - Directional signs will also have room to later add directions to other park amenities, i.e. dog park, playgrounds.

VII. REPORTS

A. Divisions:

1. Recreation Services – Christine Young

- Adult Activity Center:
 - o Veterans Day BBQ lunch held at Mansell House
 - o North Park Pretenders holiday play, December 12 and 14 at 2pm
- Athletics:
 - o Two staff to attend National Alliance for Youth Sports Conference
 - o Fall sports leagues wrapping up season this month
 - o Youth Basketball Program:
 - Practices underway; games begin early December
 - Recreation League and Academy League enrollment is strong
 - Academy League will travel to expand team play opportunities
- Winter Program ... sessions begin week of November 18

- Upcoming Recreation Events at Community Center:
 - o Santa's Mailbox ... starts November 18
 - o Pet Photos with Santa Claws ... December 7
 - o Jolly Jingle Jam ... ages 2-5 ... December 13
 - o Grinchmas Party ... ages 5-10 ... December 14
- Other News:
 - o Commission members are invited to department's holiday luncheon, December 18, 11:30am at the Adult Activity Center.
 - o Georgia Recreation & Parks Association (GRPA):
 - State conference held in Dalton November 4-7; six attendees
 - Staff presented several education sessions: Wilderness Survival Hike, Lifeguard In-Service Training, Intergenerational Programming, Speed Session on BrewAble partnership
 - GRPA Leadership & Beyond graduates: Christine Young, Cara Prell
 - Department received GRPA Agency of the Year Award, by population

2. **Wills Park and Equestrian Center – Matt Casey**

- Wills Park:
 - o Wacky World Playground
 - Pressure washed, stained; replacing swings, handles, hardware
 - Plan to reopen playground to the public on Friday
 - o Park Benches
 - Installed to encourage passive enjoyment of the park
 - Three benches added at Wacky World; three added along walking trail
 - Comment: Can benches be added around tennis courts for parents?
- Equestrian Center:
 - o Hosting Georgia Hunter/Jumper Association's Grand Finale this weekend
 - o Expecting 250+ horses to show, plus exhibitors from across Southeast
 - o Competition is for final year-end points for annual awards banquet
 - o Highlights the Equestrian Center as a regional destination
 - o Event will have a vintage Wills Park theme this year to celebrate
 - o Tables available at event to raise funds for Friends of Equestrian Center
 - o Working demolition of the maintenance shop around scheduled shows

3. **Community Services – Amanda Musilli**

- Alpharetta Special Events:
 - o Wire & Wood Songwriters Festival recap:
 - Great success with over 20,000 attendees, positive feedback, and zero incidents reported by public safety
 - 2020 headliners have been booked; release will be later
 - Righteous Guitar presented to winner at recent City Council meeting

- o Season of Celebration:
 - December 6 from 6-9pm downtown
 - Two new nutcrackers added, sponsored by local lawyers
 - Event will include falling snow and local dance troupe performances
- o Discussion of 2020 Events at City Council meeting November 18
- Alpharetta Community Agriculture:
 - o Attended Food Well Alliance's Love Local Dinner in East Point
 - o Farm fence is complete, with partial funding from Food Well Alliance; ribbon cutting ceremony on December 9 at 2pm
 - o Well water for irrigation is coming soon, once electricity is set up; and water cisterns to be installed this month
 - o Cambridge High School's Agriculture Business Course:
 - Seven students spend first period, from 7:30-8:30am, at the farm on Tuesdays/Thursdays
 - Harvested five boxes to sell to teachers to raise funds for scholarships, and a sixth box to donate to a local charity
 - o Young Farmer Program of North Fulton
 - Cambridge High School teacher is piloting a teacher program
 - City will seek budget funding in February from state legislature for a Fulton County teacher position, which will share duties for teaching agriculture business course at school, along with teaching community agriculture education and training volunteers at the farm
 - As part of piloting program, teacher hosts a monthly educational workshop towards national program requirements
 - Teacher also recently hosted a Veteran Farmers Workshop led by a veteran who is now a farmer; he shared experience of military and how owning/operating a farm has helped with healing war trauma
 - Biggest Little Farm film screening at Alpharetta Library November 13, co-hosted with North Fulton Young Farmers; all food grown by local farm and catered by Alpharetta High School's culinary group
 - o Two large volunteer groups coming November 20 and 22; primary project will be removal of temporary fencing now that fence is in place
 - o Scott Doll – Amanda Musilli recently presented to the Alpharetta Rotary; incredible what farm has provided to over 200 Cambridge FFA students
 - o Dennis Mitchell – Alpharetta High School has a culinary program, whose students will partner with Cambridge High FFA students on projects; one team to grow/harvest while other team prepares/cooks the produce

4. Park Services – Eric Milley

- North Park:
 - Recent workday with North Fulton Rotary Club; transplanted ferns, added azaleas, defined drainage ditch around garden by reflection pond
 - Removing storage shed and old deck outside Adult Activity Center; plan is to rebuild a new deck with same footprint of both; shed not replaced; new deck will enhance access from courtyard and back of building
- Webb Bridge Park:
 - Working on three planting projects ... pedestrian bridge near entrance, parking lot median by lower soccer field, parking lot by upper soccer field which includes drainage improvement
- City Center:
 - Will be replacing roadway trees in the tree wells

5. Cultural Services – Kim Zane

- Cultural Happenings:
 - October Highlights ... Arts Appreciation Open House, Evening Jazz Night, One Family, One Fulton photo session
 - November calendar for upcoming events (handout)
- Arts Center:
 - New seasonal publication going to print for winter class sessions
 - 2020 Summer Art Camps will be listed in joint publication with recreation
 - Open Call for artists for Arts Alpharetta's Holiday Market & Art Show held on December 6-8
 - Cultural Services Art Programming Grant ... seven applications received and currently being reviewed
 - Sharing Alpharetta Elementary parking lot for events; great relationship
 - Arts Center's exterior signage is in the RFP process
- History Update:
 - Wreaths Across America Program ... partnering with Daughters of American Revolution and Alpharetta & Old Milton Historical Society to lay wreaths on December 14 at three cemeteries
 - Historic Map Project ... partnering with historical society and city departments of Information Technology/GIS and Community Development/Mapping; scanning historic maps into system; available for city to use for layering purposes and adding to museum software
- Special Needs:
 - Special Needs Grant ... checks are going out to recipients
 - Adapted Yoga Class hosted in partnership with Recreation's Wellness Coordinator in the Black Box Theater at the Arts Center

- Music / AMPS (Alpharetta Music Project Strategy):
 - o Music Match Program ... sent out 2020 applications with implementation for entire year
 - o Submitted application for Fulton County Contract for Services Grant; requesting additional funding for 2020 program
 - o Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau will fund winter session of Music Match Program
- Alpharetta Performance Venues Consulting:
 - o Reviewing existing resources and sites available for performances; to be used in conjunction with production equipment secured from YMCA
 - o Arts Center Black Box, Outdoor Classroom at Wills Park, Oval Event Lawn behind Community Center, Brooke Street Park, Union Hill Park, and Equestrian Center
- Public Art / Sculptures:
 - o Omnium Gatherum Exhibit ... pads being poured; installations begin soon
 - o Alpharetta Business Association ... 25th Anniversary Sculpture, meeting with Gregory Johnson (Saxophone artist)
 - o Sidewalk Quotes, Inspiration on a Rainy Day ... random quotes around town, non-permanent paint to create temporary quotes on sidewalks that will last about a month
- Art and History Inventories:
 - o Julianna Trumboli, intern from Milton High School, project presentation
 - o Working on project in partnership with City's GIS/IT department
 - o Mapping art and history inventories into system, to allow for internal use (i.e. maintenance plans), and for external use (i.e. virtual tour)
 - o Used GIS mapping headpiece to plot points for inventories
 - o Art Resource Map – Includes artists and meaning of pieces
 - o Historical Resource Map – Includes more dates and historical background
 - o Sample information collected for historical pieces:
 - Title, description, date of property/location, address, owner contact
 - Historical marker? If so: type, install date, repair needed
 - o Mapping creates a tool useful for communication, maintenance plans, etc.

6. Project Management – Kurt Kirby

- Park Development:
 - o Windward Community Park ... construction phase began mid-October
 - o Mid-Broadwell Park ... working with Pond & Company to finalize design and planning proposal
- Wayfinding and Signage Replacement:
 - o Phase 1 ... signs installed at Northpoint Park and Rock Mill Park
 - o Phase 2 ... trail route, wayfinding at Wills Park finalized for production

- Old Rucker Farm Park:
 - o Deer fence installation complete
 - o Entrance fencing installed along Broadwell Road
- Wills Park Streambank Restoration:
 - o Applied for Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Grant
 - o Funding would supplement city funds to complete shovel-ready project

B. Director Update – Morgan Rodgers

- Proposal sent to Fulton County Board of Education (FC-BOE) requesting permission to install a playground at Alpharetta Elementary School. Staff sought out and received funding from varied sources: Resurgens (\$35,000); Northside Hospital (\$40,000); City to fund \$25,000, balance of \$100,000 project. If approved by FC-BOE, proposal would return to Commission and City Council for final approvals. City would maintain the playground for ten years.
- Also asking FC-BOE for permission to use fields at new North STEM School. Property currently in poor condition. City will repair and maintain field complex. Request will include use of entire complex for ten years (football/baseball fields, track, practice fields) plus use of school auditorium.
- Groundbreaking occurred at Windward Community Park.
- Mid-Broadwell Park – Neighborhood family attended public input event and presented wish-list board, used by Morgan in presentations to commission and council. Since the event, a ‘pop-up park’ has been created on site with a mulch trail and portable restrooms. This family has enjoyed playing and exploring in the pop-up park, and sent Morgan a fun, visual letter of their experience sharing a ‘Beautiful Sunday Afternoon at Mid-Broadwell Park,’ along with a thank you for the park’s vision and the joy it brings to their family!
- Comments on usage of Union Hill Park:
 - o In conjunction with Jason Binder and City Finance Department, an RFP has been created to send to the community, asking for ideas on usage of this facility. Interest has already been expressed for usage as a performance venue, pickleball courts, lacrosse, roller hockey rental.
 - o Request for couple of members to be on review committee when proposals are received. Scott Doll and Jit Saha volunteered to serve.

C. City Council - none

VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Shuntel Beach. Second by Sandy Barth.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm
- Next Commission meeting: December 10, 2019 at 7:00 pm
- Details for holiday dinner will be sent separately

Park Rules – Proposed 11/4/19

Alcohol is not allowed except in designated event venues during city sponsored events

Tobacco/smoking/vaping/illegal drugs are not allowed

Motorized vehicles on roadways only

- No motorized vehicles on trails
- Bikes are allowed on roadways and the Greenway, maximum 15 mph
- No motorized scooters, skateboards, E-bikes, or hover boards

No littering, vandalism or removal of city property allowed

Park hours are from dawn to dusk, unless posted by the City

All pets must be on-leash, under physical control at all times, except at designed off-leash areas

- No pets or animals are allowed on athletic fields
- Pet waste must be picked up and disposed of properly

Golf or archery are not allowed

Cutting of trees or shrubs is prohibited

- Do not attach anything to trees or structures
- Removal or damage to plants or structures is prohibited

All organized programs and activities must be approved by the City

- Groups of 25 or more require a permit
- When using an athletic field, a group of 10 or more require a permit

Cooking fires and charcoal are allowed in pavilion grills only

The following are prohibited except by permit issued by the City:

- Hunting, camping, tents and open fires
- Fireworks or explosives
- Soliciting, vending, peddling, selling
- Amplified music or PA systems
- Overnight parking
- Drones, unmanned aerial vehicles, rockets, model aircraft
- Inflatables, petting zoos

CURRENT DAILY POOL PRICES

Child 3 and under: FREE

Age 4-49: \$5

50+: \$1

*No difference in Resident/Non-Resident

PROPOSED DAILY POOL PRICES

Child 3 and under: FREE

Age 4-54 RESIDENT DISCOUNT: \$5

Age 4-54 GENERAL ADMISSION: \$8

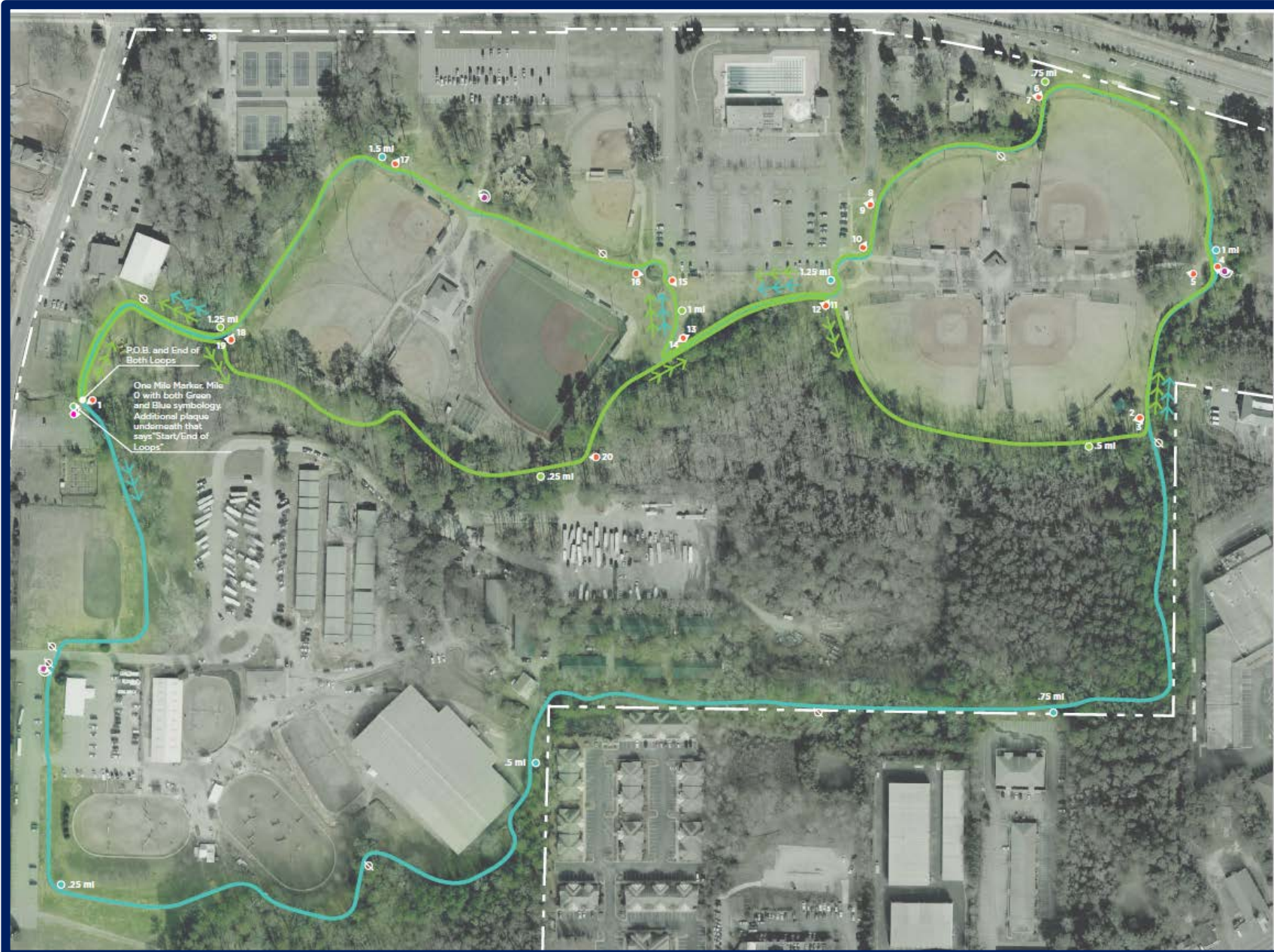
Age 55+ RESIDENT DISCOUNT: \$1

Age 55+ GENERAL ADMISSION: \$2

Wills Park Trail System Overview

- 3 new kiosks at park entrances
- Timeline
 - Start production December
 - 4 week turnaround
- 3 trails assigned different colors and distances
 - Purple- Alpharetta Community Center Loop (.2 miles)
 - Green (1.75 miles)
 - Red (1.25 miles)





Wills Park Loops

ACC Loop

