



RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 9, 2024

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2 PARK PLAZA
5:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
4. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
 - a. **Approval of Recreation Commission Minutes from July 11, 2023**
Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission meeting minutes from July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
 - b. **Approval of Recreation Commission Minutes from September 27, 2023**
Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission work session minutes from September 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
 - c. **Approval of Recreation Commission Minutes from November 14, 2023**
Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission meeting minutes from November 14, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Election of 2024 Chair and Vice Chair**
Annual election of the Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair.
7. **STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION**
 - a. **DIVISIONS**
 - i. **Community Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Community Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.
 - ii. **Cultural Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Cultural Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.
 - iii. **Recreation Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Recreation Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.
 - iv. **Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part I) - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Park Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department for the parks located within the northern, southern, eastern, and downtown districts of the City of Alpharetta.
 - v. **Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part II) - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Park Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department for Wills Park Proper, Wills Park Equestrian, and parks located in the western district of the City of Alpharetta.
 - vi. **Senior Operations Manager Monthly Report - January 2024**
Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Senior Operations Manager of the Recreation, Park & Cultural Services Department.

8. RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS
9. PUBLIC COMMENT
10. ADJOURNMENT



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Amber O'Dwyer
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Approval of Recreation Commission Minutes from July 11, 2023

Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission meeting minutes from July 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission meeting minutes from July 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Administrative Office Coordinator, Amber O'Dwyer, prepared a synopsis of the pertinent information that occurred during the Recreation Commission meeting on July 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Attendance – July 11, 2023, Recreation Commission Meeting:

Recreation Commission Members – Present

- Dennis Mitchell (Chairman)
- Jit Saha (Vice Chair)
- Derek Kaighin
- Brad Bowers
- Jeremy Scott

Recreation Commission Members – Absent

- John Norton
- Shuntel Beach
- Cheryl Rand
- Karla Piedrahita

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 07.11.23 - RC Minutes (Unofficial)



RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

JULY 11, 2023

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 PM

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- Recreation Commissioners Present
 - Chairman Dennis Mitchell
 - Vice Chairman Jit Saha
 - Brad Bowers
 - Derek Kaighin
 - Jeremy Scott
- Recreation Commissioners Absent
 - Cheryl Rand
 - John Norton
 - Karla Piedrahita
 - Shuntel Beach
- Staff
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Kurt Kirby, Project Manager
 - Kim Zane Manning, Cultural Services Manager
 - Amanda Musilli, Community Services Manager
 - Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager
 - Eric Milley, Park Services Manager
 - Matt Casey, Park Services Manager (Wills Park & Equestrian)
 - Amber O'Dwyer, Administrative Office Coordinator
 - James Drinkard, Assistant City Administrator

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Recreation Commission Minutes from June 13, 2023

- ❖ As only four of the seven commissioners present for the June 13th meeting were in attendance, approval of the minutes from the June 13th meeting was deferred to the August 8, 2023, Recreation Commission Meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business to discuss.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Phoenix Rugby - Youth Athletic Association Partnership

Approval of Phoenix Youth Rugby becoming a partnered Youth Athletic Association with the City of Alpharetta starting Fall 2023.

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Rugby is a unique sport, and the department has been in contact with the organization to incorporate them into the list of associations offering youth athletics.
- The organization already uses North Park fields on Tuesdays and Thursdays for practice. We would also allocate the field at Innovation Academy as well.
- Staff recommends adding the youth athletic association to the list of athletic associations in partnership with the City.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Phoenix Rugby

Q I understand that currently, the association would maintain its current usage of the fields. As they grow, how would the City be able to continue to support them? (Saha)

A Looking at approximately two years down the road, Ambush will likely move to Webb Bridge Park's turf field opening up additional fields at North Park.

- ❖ Commissioner Saha offered a motion to approve Phoenix Youth Rugby as a partnered youth athletic association with the City of Alpharetta beginning fall 2023.
 - Commissioner Kaighin seconded the motion.
- ❖ The motion was approved (4-0-1) with Commissioner Bowers abstaining.

VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

a. DIVISIONS

Community Services Division Monthly Report – July 2023

- Amanda Musilli, Community Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Special Events

- Taste of Alpharetta will be going out to bid for a new event management provider for years 2024-2026.

Community Agriculture

- Camps sold out by the end of the month as word of mouth spread about the new camps and the campers' experience.
- The garden at NFCC is now up and running with approximately 20 volunteers assisting (who already assisted with NFCC but were interested in gardening). City staff will assist in providing seeds, how to properly plant and harvest on a rotational plan, etc. for the best possible success.
- Staff is working on FY24 goals for the Community Agriculture Program. The last few months have been spent prioritizing the 19 recommendations in the City's Agriculture Plan finalized at the last steering committee meeting. Staff plans to present the results to Mayor & Council in August.
- It is time for cold-weather crop planting. Brussel sprouts just went in the trays and are sprouting!

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Taste of Alpharetta

Q If Jacob's Eye is being discontinued, why not have staff take back the responsibility for managing the Taste of Alpharetta? (Saha)

A Amanda Musilli responded that the contract will not be completed for the third and final year with Jacob's Eye. Staff is making revisions based on the learning experience with Jacob's Eye and is placing it out to bid. While staff will be more involved than in years prior, several items brought back in-house, and more oversight implemented, an event management team is still necessary.

Q Will the bid include the incumbent vendor? (Kaighin)

A We do not know but submitting a proposal will be entirely up to them.

Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – July 2023

- Kim Manning, Cultural Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Highlights:

- Celebrating Juneteenth was a great event and was featured on the front lawn and terrace (which the division is trying to activate more this year).
- The *Unveiling of Ms. Jean* baby grand piano unveiling recently took place which was very sentimental for many as the previous owner played piano for the Alpharetta Methodist Church. Some of her family was present for the unveiling.
- The first reading with Maia was recently featured with the Art on the Go-Go program.

Summer Camps:

- Camp Creative has been very successfully with two sessions in the morning and two in the afternoon. A child can do clay in the morning and silk screen painting in the afternoon.
 - Breaks take place on the terrace.
- Art Country Camps at the Log Cabin went wonderfully.

Key Notes & Upcoming Events:

- The current gallery exhibit is *Celebrations*.
- Friends of the Alpharetta Library has monthly book sales and asked if the Arts Center could help promote the event.
- *Mariupol, the City that does not Exist*, is also on display.
- *Eclectic Lawn* the art center summer concert series will be featured again this Friday and will be a Latin band. The last event will feature reggae.
- The Baily-Johnson Basketball Team Championship Ring recognition will take place at City Council on July 17th.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Unveiling of Miss Jean

Q During the unveiling of the piano, there was a gentleman with a sign-up sheet for time and/or money and what was the outcome and success of that? (Saha)

A We are not sure and will need to inquire and provide a response.

Recreation Services Division Monthly Report – July 2023

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Summer Camps

- Having a fantastic summer. Camps across all divisions have been so successful!

- Staff has worked really hard to provide unique and a variety of camps.

Key Notes

- Pool has had challenging weather so not seeing attendance as we'd like.
- July is National Parks & Recreation Month and staff is excited to highlight what we do!
- The school year guide is coming out soon. Fall/winter registration will start on July 26th for residents and August 13th for non-residents.
- Photos to illustrate all the various activities staff offers and the fun residents have were displayed!
- She mentioned a quote by Maya Angelou, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.", and that staff keeps it at the front of their minds when it comes to their approach to the public in terms of camps, programs, athletics, special events, etc.

Special Events

- In terms of special events, July 4th was a great event. While attendance was down (likely due to weather), the fireworks were still a great show.
- Scarecrow Harvest and Wire & Wood are right around the corner and the full line-up for Wire & Wood performers is on the website.
- Planning is underway for the Season of Celebration with the tree lighting taking place November 18th this year.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Summer Camps

- C Commissioner Kaighin commented his son is truly enjoying summer camps especially the variety week after week.

Park Services Division (Excluding Wills Park) Monthly Report – July 2023

- Eric Milley, Park Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Staff is in transition with the fiscal years and have several projects starting up with the new funding.
- Staff is working on repairing downlighting at Brooke St. Parke, along Encore, and the fountains around City Hall.
- Irrigation repairs will take place at Innovation Academy, Maddox Park, and North Main Street Park near Mercantile Social.
- Staff is currently working hard to upkeep the fields and parks for the tournaments and special events at all parks and downtown.

- Staff is also finalizing the contract with the daily trash receptacle service moving from 4 to 7 days a week.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission.

Park Services Division (Wills Park & Equestrian) Monthly Report - July 2023

- Matt Casey, Park Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Wills Park

- Wills Park is in full swing with baseball.
- Staff is in the process of moving into the new maintenance facility.
- Staff did a great job prepping Wills Park for the July 4th fireworks as a lot of work goes into prepping the park for the event.
- Goats should be arriving around August 7th for about 18 days.

Equestrian Center

- A nationally rated horseshow will be at the equestrian center for the next two weeks.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: July 4th Fireworks

Q Why were restrooms near the stables not accessible? Was that due to safety and the fireworks? (Saha)

A Yes, those are within the blast zone of the fireworks.

Project Management Division Monthly Report - July 2023

- Kurt Kirby, Project Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Non-Bond Projects

- Greenway wayfinding signage were installed on schedule and staff are excited about the new installs as they match the standard sign in the park system.

Bond Projects

- Rucker Park has 50% plans submitted and are under review by staff.
- Waters Road Park has water/sewer approved and are awaiting the land disturbance permit from Community Development. Staff hopes to break ground the end of month/first of August.

- Mid-Broadwell Park is under construction. A few questions pertaining to water/sewer are under review and need to be answered. The playground is currently on the agenda for Council approval on 7/17. Staff hopes to begin installation September-October.
- Webb Bridge Park has an approved engineering design for water/sewer. A kick-off meeting is planned for this Thursday. As this gets going, staff will have a better idea for the turf replacement.
- The Farmhouse site is still in talks with the owners of the adjacent property to incorporate parking and access to the historical site.
- The monthly update meeting for Wills Park Proper will take place Thursday. Staff is working to finalize some things in Phase I of construction (restrooms and Wacky World). Play By Design and Barge have a good dialogue in terms of the overall master plan and the playground's design and layout.
- An update meeting regarding the Equestrian Center is on Thursday to finalize the design. Staff is taking a holistic approach to ensure no matter the phase, no conflicts will arise down the road.
- Union Hill Park still has plans under review and there is nothing new to report.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission.

b. DIRECTOR

- Morgan Rodgers, Director for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Sheltonville is now known as "Shake Rack".
- Christine mentioned there were some changes to the department's organization. Special Events has now been moved from Amanda's division to Christine.
 - The change permits Amanda time to focus on cultivating the City's Community Agriculture Plan. She will keep holiday décor but also take on landscaping responsibilities for park facility entrances to enhance those areas.
 - Special Events moving under Recreation Services which will expand the opportunity for more staff involvement and assistance.
 - Marketing will now directly report to Morgan versus Amanda and staff is brainstorming how to upgrade the current marketing plan.
- As mentioned, the tree lighting was moved to the Saturday before Thanksgiving to permit the City to celebrate the season a little longer. The stage will actually be placed in front of City Hall and expanded to make the event grander.
- Items coming before City Council:
 - Mid-Broadwell Playground – 7/17

- Downtown Trash Receptacle Contract + Two F150 Truck Purchases – 7/24
- Community Theater MOU – 8/7

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission.

VIII. RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- There were no Commissioner reports.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were no public comments.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Commissioner Scott made a motion to adjourn.
 - Commissioner Saha seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).
- ❖ Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Amber O'Dwyer
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Approval of Recreation Commission Minutes from September 27, 2023

Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission work session minutes from September 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve, as written, the Recreation Commission work session minutes from September 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Administrative Office Coordinator, Amber O'Dwyer, prepared a synopsis of the pertinent information that occurred during the Recreation Commission work session on September 27, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Attendance – September 27, 2023, Recreation Commission Work Session:

Recreation Commission Members – Present

- Jit Saha (Vice Chair)
- John Norton
- Karla Piedrahita
- Cheryl Rand
- Brad Bowers
- Jeremy Scott

Recreation Commission Members – Absent

- Dennis Mitchell (Chair)
- Derek Kaighin
- Shuntel Beach

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 09.27.23 - RC WS Minutes



RECREATION COMMISSION
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COMMUNITY ROOM | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 PM

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Vice Chair Saha called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- **Recreation Commission Members - Present**
 - Jit Saha (Vice Chair)
 - John Norton
 - Karla Piedrahita
 - Cheryl Rand
 - Brad Bowers
 - Jeremy Scott
- **Recreation Commission Members – Absent**
 - Dennis Mitchell (Chairman)
 - Derek Kaighin
 - Shuntel Beach
- **Staff**
 - Morgan Rodgers – Director, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Kurt Kirby – Project Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Christine Young – Recreation Services Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Claire Thurber – Special Events Coordinator, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Amber O'Dwyer – Administrative Office Coordinator, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. WORK SESSION ITEMS

a. Park Bond Projects Update

- Kirk Kirby, Project Manager for the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services presented the item.
- In November 2021, the Citizens of Alpharetta overwhelmingly passed a \$29,500,000.00 bond referendum for parks. There were a total of nine (9) projects outlined in the bond.
- Once a quarter, staff attempts to provide an update on the park bond projects. The report being presented tonight is the one presented to City Council at the September 18th, Council Work Session and will serve as an update for eight (8) of the nine (9) projects with information forthcoming on the Alpha Loop bond project.

Farmhouse Heritage Park

- This is the one project that perceptually does not appear to be moving forward (as there is no major construction associated with the initiative), but it is making progress.
- The intent is not great renovations for the park, but to preserve the site and its natural setting as much as possible.
- The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has recently informed the City of site impacts resulting from the Georgia 400 Managed Lanes project. Staff is working to schedule a meeting with GDOT.
- Owners of the developing parcel adjacent to the park (north of the gas station and east of the settlement site) have been in conversation with staff regarding parking and improved accessibility to the site.
 - This is a significant opportunity as currently, all the City's funding would be used to construct a lengthy boardwalk to permit access to the site., In working with the neighboring development, a new access point may be possible thus limiting the amount of boardwalk required and freeing funding for other enhancements to the historic site.
 - The developer has no reciprocal requests, believing the passive park will be an added amenity and feature that will enhance the resale value of the future development.

Mid-Broadwell Park

- Construction has resumed on the park with parking, restrooms, and infrastructure being installed.
- There is currently an RFP posted for the playground and staff has until September 28th to make a recommendation on a vendor. Once done, the next steps will be to seek approval of the selected vendor and contract by City Council come the end of October.
- If approved, the turnaround time for the playground, based on the "wood-like" design of the original concept, would be 15 weeks from contract signing to playability.
- The current rendering does not include the trail system as shown in the original design concept. This is due in part to the current illustration being focused solely on the first phase of the park's development whereas the trails are planned for installment later in the process. Currently, a natural trail does reside at the park as a rollover from the pop-up park that once occupied the site.
- There are plans to install a HAWK system along Mid-Broadwell near the fire station to assist in pedestrian safety for neighboring residents accessing the park.

Old Rucker Park

- Plans are currently at 90% completion with construction estimated to begin in mid-2024.
- The estimated cost for the current design is over \$3M. Staff is working to lower costs to a manageable budget without compromising the park's intent.
- If all goes well, staff is looking at 2025 for completion (18-24 months of construction).
- Much of the timeline is contingent upon the phasing schedule and balancing construction with the Community Agriculture programs hosted at the park.
 - During specific phases of construction, the park will be closed to the public while at other times closed to both the public and staff to ensure safety.
 - To minimize disruption to the Community Agriculture's programs, staff is working diligently to develop alternative arrangements for relocation of the program to other parks (such as Mayfield), etc.
 - Staff will only know exactly which plans to implement when various phases of construction begin.

Union Hill Park

- Renovations are complete on the covered venue site.
- The park's design concept was approved by City Council at the September 25, 2023, Council Meeting.
- Staff provided the opportunity for public comment as well as enlisted a company highly specialized in the development of skate parks to craft a promising design that meets the target demographic's interests.

Waters Road Park

- The design-build project began construction on August 28, 2023, with completion anticipated in Spring 2024.

Webb Bridge Park Upper Field Turf

- Design for the sewer connection is nearing completion. Staff is currently preparing to seek bids for the sewer and turf replacement simultaneously.
- Funding for the sewer connection will be identified from alternative sources so as to not affect the overall bond funding for the turf replacement approved by the public.
- Staff hopes to break ground on the turf replacement in Fall 2024 with the turf ready for play in Spring 2025.
- The remaining fields at Webb Bridge Park will remain accessible and playable for users.

Wills Park Proper Improvements

- Improvements will be accomplished with a phased approach and construction is scheduled for 2024. The current timeline is predicted to be approximately 12 months for construction.
- Plans for Phase 1 (renovation and construction of Wacky World playground and park restrooms) are 90% complete. The playground will retain the same footprint and parking will be expanded to encompass the space where vehicles currently jump the curb to park.
- Phase 2 (renovations to the gateway entrances and the connecting spine from Wills Road to Roswell Street) and Phase 3 (renovations to Waggy World dog park) are scheduled for completion in April 2024.

Wills Park Equestrian Center Improvements

- Arena #3 is complete.
- Plans for Phase 1 (renovation of arenas #2 and #4) are expected in October 2023 with construction planned for Spring 2024.
- Plans for Phase 2 (construction of entry drives, parking, and three new barns) and Phase 3 (construction of the promenade, five additional barns, and entry enhancements) are to be completed by July 2024.
- The Equestrian Foundation has agreed to help fund the sizable project. Currently, the total initiative has funding in place for the first two of the three phases with the aid of the foundation's stated financial contribution.
- One of disc golf course holes will be impacted given the new design for the Equestrian Center, but this warrants further conversation as many of the disc golf holes are very close to the stream and require relocation.

RECREATION COMMISSION DISCUSSION

RE: Wills Park Wacky World Playground

Q How is fundraising going for Wacky World? (Norton)

A Several corporate sponsors have been acquired as well as a few civic organizations, though the committee has yet to have a substantial sponsor commit. Fundraising efforts have taken place at many recent events including the Mayor's 5K Challenge, The Farmer's Market, and the Fall Brew Moon Fest. Additionally, a fundraising concert is planned to raise additional funds (which has already achieved close to \$10,000k pre-event). More events are also on the calendar for continued promotion. Between it all, the committee feels the momentum is building. (Scott)

b. ARPCS Scholarship Program

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager for the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services presented the item.
- Alpharetta has a program in place, the ARPCS Scholarship Program, in which low-income families who meet certain qualifications may receive subsidized funding for children to participate in recreational programs.
- The current program was reviewed by staff, and it was determined that much of the documentation provided to the city was duplicious to that required by Fulton County Schools (FCS). Applicants are currently providing documentation once to the school system to meet free-lunch requirements and then again to Alpharetta for acceptance into the ARPCS Scholarship Program.
- From that realization, staff wished to streamline the current process.
 1. If the applicant qualified for the free-lunch program via FCS, then the applicant would only need to show the SNAP card, proof of Alpharetta residency, and a driver's license.
 2. This would not negate the current process, however, if the applicant is not participating in the free-lunch program. If not, all documentation currently required must be submitted.
- Additionally, staff will move away from the tiered program based on percentage to a flat fund of \$1,000 per child.
- The item was presented to the Recreation Commission for discussion during the August 2023 work session. Commissioners requested a secondary discussion on the topic to review data comparisons from neighboring cities with similar programs and request staff include the following parameters within the program:
 - A registration date for camps.
 - A participation cap between 20-25 applicants (avoiding a hard cut off given families with multiple children)
- Based on the feedback from The Commission, staff presented the following revisions to qualifications:
 - Applicant's documentation of approved participation in a school's free lunch program must be on official school or Fulton County Schools letterhead.
 - The address on the applicant's driver's license must match the local address presented on the application.
 - Applicant must present a utility bill or property tax bill as proof of Alpharetta residency.
 - Applicant must present dependency verification.
 - Notification of approval/denial was adjusted from five to ten business days.
 - The application now includes a check box for staff attesting dependency verification.
 - For homeschoolers/private school applicants, dependency verification was added as well.

- A participation cap between 20-25 applicants (avoiding a hard cut off given families with multiple children) was implemented.
- A funding cap was also implemented and will be issued on a first come first serve basis.

RECREATION COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

RE: ARPCS Scholarship Program

- Q Specifically, what type of documentation will be acceptable for dependency verification? (Scott)
- A Birth certificate, adoption papers, or legal guardianship.
- Q Were these the items required in the past but were eliminated with the new proposed plan? (Bowers)
- A Yes. They were required, then eliminated and ultimately reinstated.
- Q In the past, there were usually only 10-15 participants, but did any of them have present issues with the vetting process? (Bowers)
- A One of the three did. But, in response to the concern about a cap, staff stated 25 was the cap internally.
- Q Why was the cap only noted internally and not externally as well? (Saha)
- A Only a few residents apply each year and mainly the program spreads by word of mouth. The application also states it is on a first come first serve basis with limited funding.

IV. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

RE: Mayfield Park

- Q Other than Grow-A-Row, what is the vision for Mayfield Park? (Saha)
- A Currently, staff is working to demolish any unsafe structures. As for the division of the park and programming would need to be discussed between the two cities of Milton and Alpharetta. No further conversation has currently been had beyond a grow-a-row program and community garden.
- Q What did the two cities agree to when the property was purchased? (Rand)
- A The two cities were concerned about the three neighboring plats becoming a private development so the two cities chose to invest in the property to preserve the space but nothing beyond in terms of prospective use for the property was ever discussed. The park cannot accommodate ball fields (due to size), nor active programs so the site would have to remain a passive park.

V. ADJOURNMENT

❖ *Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Amber O'Dwyer
Administrative Office Coordinator



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Amber O'Dwyer
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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Recreation Commission Members – Present

- Dennis Mitchell (Chairman)
- Karla Piedrahita
- John Norton
- Cheryl Rand
- Brad Bowers
- Jeremy Scott
- Derek Kaighin
- Shuntel Beach

Recreation Commission Members – Absent

- Jit Saha (Vice Chair)

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 11.14.23 - RC Minutes (Unofficial)



RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

NOVEMBER 14, 2023

ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:30 PM

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II. ROLL CALL

- Recreation Commissioners Present
 - Chairman Dennis Mitchell
 - Brad Bowers
 - Derek Kaighin
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 - Karla Piedrahita
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- Recreation Commissioners Absent
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- Staff
 - James Drinkard, Assistant City Administrator
 - Lauren Shapiro, City Clerk
 - Morgan Rodgers, Director, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Kurt Kirby, Senior Operations Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Amanda Musilli, Community Services Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Eric Milley, Park Services Manager (Northern, Southern, Eastern, Downtown Districts), Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Matt Casey, Park Services Manager (Western District & Equestrian), Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
 - Amber O'Dwyer, Administrative Office Coordinator, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. Recreation Commission Minutes from June 13, 2023

- ❖ Commissioner Rand offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from the June 13, 2023, Recreation Commission meeting.

- Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.
 - ❖ The motion was approved (7-0-1 with Commissioner Beach abstaining).
- b. Recreation Commission Minutes from June 28, 2023**
 - ❖ Commissioner Kaighin offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from the June 28, 2023, Recreation Commission work session.
 - Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.
 - ❖ The motion was approved (6-0-2 with Commissioners Scott and Bowers abstaining).
- c. Recreation Commission Minutes from July 11, 2023**
 - ❖ Approval of the minutes from the July 11, 2023 Recreation Commission meeting was deferred to the next regular meeting of the Recreation Commission on account of a lack of majority members present who attended the July 11, 2023, meeting.
- d. Recreation Commission Minutes from July 26, 2023**
 - ❖ Commissioner Piedrahita offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from the July 26, 2023, Recreation Commission work session.
 - Commissioner Beach seconded the motion.
 - ❖ The motion was approved (5-0-3 with Commissioners Scott, Rand, and Bowers abstaining).
- e. Recreation Commission Minutes from August 23, 2023**
 - ❖ Commissioner Bowers offered a motion to approve the minutes, as presented, from the August 23, 2023, Recreation Commission work session.
 - Commissioner Rand seconded the motion.
 - ❖ The motion was approved (5-0-3 with Commissioners Kaighin, Beach, and Scott abstaining).

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. ARPCS Scholarship Program Revisions

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- The City of Alpharetta offers a scholarship program to subsidize the cost of recreation programs for qualified low-income families in the community.
- On average, less than ten (10) applications are processed and awarded annually.
- Review of the current requirements for qualification in the scholarship program revealed much of the documentation was cumbersome and duplicitous for both the participants and staff.
- The goal of the revised process is to reduce redundancy in documentation as the process to qualify for the lunch programs is similar to Alpharetta's current process and, in effect, the school district has vetted the applicants for us.
- Staff recommends adopting the model the City of Roswell, Georgia has used for years, which requires qualification based upon approval through Fulton County Schools for the Free Lunch or Reduced Lunch Program(s).
- Revisions to the current process were first introduced to the Recreation Commission during the August 23, 2023 work session.
- During the work session the Recreation Commission made recommendations, and those revisions have been incorporated into the program's qualification procedures. Revisions include:
 - Verification of residency via current driver's license and utility bill.
 - Verification of participation in the free lunch program submitted on respective school's or Fulton County School's letterhead.

- Limiting amount of funding to 20-25 children.
 - Home/private school applicants will continue to be required to complete the current application. These applicants will not have been vetted by a public school system or Fulton County Schools to qualify for state-funded programs and therefore, must provide additional information to qualify for assistance.
 - Approved applicants will be awarded \$1,000 annually to use towards programs of choice per child.
 - This amount will be credited in their Active Net account; any remaining funds will be removed at the end of a year and at that time, participants must re-apply for scholarship funding.
 - If a participant exceeds the \$1,000 allotment in the process of registering for activities, they will be responsible for paying the difference.
 - If a participant is homeschooled and not receiving free or reduced lunch, or is not qualified under any other assistance programs, the current qualifications will still be in place and utilized for qualifying participants.
 - The \$1,000 award is historically based upon the average amount subsidized for a participant in a year.
- ❖ Commissioner Rand offered a motion to approve the revisions, as presented, to the City of Alpharetta's Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Scholarship qualification process.
 - Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.
 - ❖ The motion was approved unanimously (8--0).

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business.

VII. STAFF PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

b. Open Records Training & Presentation

- Lauren Shapiro, City Clerk for the City of Alpharetta came forward to present the item.
- It is well known that commission and council meetings are open to public, and lesser known that records associated with such meetings, or any government business are as well.
- Requests for records are facilitated through the City Clerk's Office and in 2022, the City Clerk's office received over 6,200 open records requests which can include but are not limited to requests for emails, text messages, minutes, agenda items, and court records.
- The City of Alpharetta currently utilizes a records request software portal known as JustFOIA to help facilitate the high count of requests and ensure compliance with the Georgia Open Records Act.
 - When a request is submitted, the Clerk's Office will notify the individuals impacted by the request that a request for records has been made.
 - The City is required to respond to the requestor within three (3) days of the request.
 - Once a request is submitted, each department prepares, reviews, and redacts the responsive documentation or must provide a pre-retrieval estimate within the (3) day timeline.
 - There is a list of over 50 exceptions in the Official Code of Georgia that exclude specific items from records requests. Such items include client-privilege documents, medical records, personal email addresses, personal cell phone numbers, trade secrets.

- Additionally, in an effort to further comply with the State's Open Records Act, City commissioners and board members are being issued city email addresses to deter use of personal email addresses for City business moving forward.
- Moreover, the city issued email accounts will bolster the City's cyber security efforts. And, as the two initiatives are somewhat related, the Department of Information Technology will administer monthly cyber security training videos in conjunction with the migration.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Open Records

- Q The ability to access records from personal email accounts is only moving forward? (Mitchell)
- A Yes, but respectfully in terms of the level at which you are comfortable providing information. (Shapiro)
- Q How would 2DUO Authentication be made possible if needed on my iPad? (Bowers)
- A That is a good question and best answered by the Department of Information Technology. (Shapiro)
- Q What about conversing with the City from the stance of a resident versus as a commissioner? (Rand)
- A It is recommended to keep personal correspondence to the City on a personal email and to use your city issued account for official City business. (Shapiro)
- Q Does this apply for program registration applications and enrollment when commissioners register children in recreation programs? (Kaighin)
- A While some personal information would be deemed protected and redacted, staff recommends using your personal email account for registration to keep from blurring the lines. (Shapiro)
- Q Will commissioner City email accounts be posted on the City site for public access? (Bowers)
- A Usually the email addresses aren't posted on the site but are left to the discernment of each commission and/or board. (Shapiro)
- A Staff is looking at removing all individual city issued email accounts from the website from cybersecurity, but this has not been confirmed as of yet. (Drinkard)

c. DIVISIONS

i. Community Services Division Monthly Report – November 2023

- Amanda Musilli, Community Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.

Division Highlights

- Cambridge High School Aga-retta Box students launched their CSA micro-business in October and have been having great success with their weekly fresh produce sales, selling out weekly.
 - A new product was actually launched this year, dehydrated sweet potato greens.
 - There are also special Thanksgiving boxes being released this week that will contain additional treats such as scented candles.

- The students' goal is to clear \$1,000 in sales.
- The Community Services division hosted the annual fall harvest picnic and had a local middle school chorus sing during dinner. It was a chilly evening, but beautiful to have so many people together breaking bread and sharing stories.
- The City received the Environmental Award from the Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment for our district. Commissioner Bob Ellis nominated Old Rucker Farm, recognizing the hard work that is put into the City's commitment to sustainability and regenerative agriculture for the community.
- Additionally, five corporate groups volunteered at The Farm in October, on the last community workday of 2023.
- Alpharetta Rotary kick started the Old Rucker Farmhouse renovations by preparing the former kitchen space for its future use.

Division Initiatives

- Community Services has an exciting list of classes and workshops scheduled for November and all are available on Active Net.
- Staff is looking forward to utilizing the FFA Log Cabin for classes now that the temperatures are lower, and the days are shorter.
- The 2024 Community Garden Grower Program opened on November 6th to current plot holders at Old Rucker Farm. The plots will be open to new growers on November 13th. This year, pricing is the same as last year for residents, but the new pricing structure is in effect for non-residents. As of last night, all plots were sold out.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: CHS Ag-Aretta Gift Boxes

Q Are the sales only at The Farm? (Piedrahita)

A They are also available online for sale! (Musilli)

RE: Sponsorship/Volunteer Recognition Banners

Q Was a decision ever made about sponsorship/volunteer recognition banners at Old Rucker Farm. If so, any news? (Kaighin).

A Staff has Signarama coming to look at The Farm to get an idea of the space and to craft mock-up banners. The hope is to have those visuals available for the Recreation Commission soon. (Musilli)

Q Were sizes ever going to be regulated? (Kaighin)

A Not-to-date but staff is working through potential size options. Staff can say the banners are not to exceed the size of those displayed by Athletic Association Sponsorship banners at athletic fields. (Musilli)

ii. Cultural Services Division Monthly Report – November 2023

- Kurt Kirby, Senior Operations Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item on behalf of Kim Manning.
- The Division recently had Family Day at Alpharetta Arts Center on October 7.

- Additionally, the City proclaimed October as National Arts & Humanities Month at a Council Meeting.
- Crosswalks in Parks Initiative is underway with another mural completed at the Alpharetta Community Center. More to come.
- Staff is working on the final stages of the MOU for the Community Stage “The Spotlight” with North Point Mall.
- “The Visitor” Sculpture has had a revised rendering and has only disappeared temporarily to be repainted and reintroduced.
- Public Art in Parks – (9) Greenway Manhole Murals by North Fulton Rotary
 - The Cultural Arts Commission recently approved the painting of 9 murals along the Big Creek Greenway.
 - The murals are in the process of being painted and most reside near Rock Mill Park (2 south with the other 7 north).
- There are several upcoming events and exhibits being offered through the Cultural Services Division as well as several local art leader groups:
 - *Warmth of Autumn Quilt Show* presented by Chattahoochee Evening Stars Quilt Guild.
 - *Wood Works Gallery Exhibit* presented by Alpharetta Arts Center.
 - *Hamlet* presented by ACT1 Community Theater.
 - *Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony* presented by the Alpharetta Symphony Orchestra.
 - *Heartwarming Sights & Scenes by Tony Thomas* is being featured in the Community Gallery at City Hall.
 - *Artists Holiday Market* presented by Arts Alpharetta at Alpharetta Arts Center.
 - *Atlanta Portrait Society Annual Exhibit* in on display at the Alpharetta Arts Center Nov 21, 2023 through Jan 20, 2024.
 - *She Loves Me* is being presented by ACT1 Community Theater.
 - *Home for the Holidays* by Alpharetta Symphony at North Point Mall.
 - Alpharetta Music Match featuring Trey Wright will be at the Alpharetta Arts Center.
 - Friends of the Alpharetta Library Monthly Book Sale at the Alpharetta Public Library.
 - *The Nutcracker* was presented by Metropolitan Ballet Theatre at the Innovation Academy.
 - *Wreaths Across America Event* presented by Alpharetta Old Milton County Historical Society & Daughter of the American Revolution at Resthaven Cemetery and various cemeteries in Alpharetta.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Community Theater Stage

Q Is the space presented now the same space introduced? (Rand)

A Yes.

Q Is it stadium seating? (Piedrahita)

A Not stadium, all flat.

RE: Manhole Murals on Big Creek Greenway

Q This was an idea considered years ago? (Rand)

A Yes, it has been brought forth before to no success, but North Fulton Rotary did have success.

iii. Recreation Services Division Monthly Report – November 2023

- Christine Young, Recreation Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Wire & Wood was a smashing success; plans for October 11-12, 2024, have begun.
 - Great success!
 - 16 Music Match Performances added.
 - Great sponsorships.
- Scarecrow Harvest Fun & Boo Bash!
 - 91 community scarecrows, 45 business scarecrows.
 - Winners were announced at Boo Bash which also had an excellent turn out.
 - ACC Supervisor, Lindsey Pritchard did a wonderful job and elevated the event higher than she did before.
- Veteran's Lunch, 11/7 AAAC
 - Over 100 participants.
 - Staff came out to serve and express gratitude for the veterans.
- Silver Spokes
 - Cycling group program offered to active adults.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Season of Celebration
 - Tree Lighting, November 18th 5-9pm (lighting at 6:30pm); also kicks off the holiday food drive through 12/17
 - Holiday Hop & Shop, December 2nd, 9am-4pm
 - Flicks & Flurries on the Town Green, December 16th, 6-8pm
 - Avalon is featuring a holiday events for pets.
 - ACVB will have holiday photos.
 - Wrap Shack will be made available downtown to wrap gifts purchased by patrons.
 - A photo snow globe will also be available.
- TOA update
 - 4 Vendors applied.
 - Contract set to go to City Council 11/27 for Approval
 - More in-house involvement.
 - Bringing back direct relationship with restaurants.
 - Collaborating with ACVB for marketing.

- Collaborating with Public Safety and Public Works for more involvement.
- Staff Award: GRPA D7 Annual Awards Banquet, Jeff Pruitt Inspirational Award- Lindsey Pritchard
- Staff training
 - National Recreation Parks Association- Dallas, TX: Lindsey Pritchard
 - National Alliance for Youth Sports- Baltimore, MD: Tyler Spinnenweber, Alan Sanders & Jaydan Macon
 - Georgia Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference: Morgan Rodgers, Kurt Kirby, Christine Young & Alan Sanders
- Tot Time: The Little Program that Could
 - Started off with a small number of kids which has grown to over 40 participants.
 - A pavilion at Wills Park houses Tot Time every Friday.
- Summer Guide is in the works; available online Feb 9; registration begins Feb 28 Residents; Mar 13 OPEN
 - This coming summer's theme is "Coolest Summer Ever!"

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Taste of Alpharetta 2024

Q Is there a date for the 2024 Taste? (Norton)

A May 9th.

iv. Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part I) – November 2023

- Eric Milley, Park Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- We have now hired the two vacant positions for the Downtown District; one Park Tech, and one Downtown Supervisor. Both positions were desperately needed for basic routine maintenance downtown and Innovation Academy and special event support.
- Several of the electrical outlets in the tree wells have been repaired, raised, and some relocated.
- Staff just replaced 12 of the 23 missing trees around the city center. We are trying to locate the other oaks and elms to complete the project. This does not include the 6 Main Street trees. That will be done later due to size and location.
- All concrete planters around town have been cleaned and seasonal plantings were completed to include Main Street and Haynes Bridge medians.
- During the next couple of months, we will be focusing on cleaning up fence lines and underbrush at Innovation Academy.
- We will also be routinely adding sand and topsoil to all fields at Innovation Academy.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A:

RE: Innovation Academy Underbrush

Q Bringing goats to clear underbrush? (Rand)

A No, chainsaws. (Milley)

v. **Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part II) - November 2023**

- Matt Casey, Park Services Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Fall Sports have been a success. Athletic fields and grounds are in outstanding shape.
- Entrances to ACC and Rec Center have been pressure washed. few shrubs were removed from the ACC as well and the Alpharetta Rotary helped mulch was laid.
- Horseshows have been well attended. Upcoming year end Finals will be some of our largest events of the year.
- Four more horse shows are planned for the remainder of the year.

vi. **Senior Operations Manager Monthly Report – November 2023**

- Kurt Kirby, Project Manager for the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department came forward to present the item.
- Staff reported on active non-bond projects scheduled for the FY23-24 budget year as well as other related projects that will enhance our parks and facilities.
- There are no updates to the Bond Report that was presented at the September 27, 2023 Recreation Commission Work Session.

ACTIVE PARK ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS:

- **North Park Tennis/Pickleball Courts Resurfacing:**
 - **Scope of work:** Convert two additional tennis courts to permanent pickleball, resurface all courts, replace fencing fabric around the perimeter.
 - **Budget:** \$100,000
 - **Status:**
 - Phase 1: Resurfacing/Conversion has been completed.
 - Phase 2: Perimeter Fencing: PO approved, awaiting installation date.
 - Target Completion Date: December 1
- **Miracle League Field Replacement:**
 - **Scope of Work:** Replace the existing playing surface.
 - **Budget:** \$500,000
 - **Status:**
 - RFP scheduled to be issued October 12
 - RFP due November 09
 - Construction target completed by March 1
- **Wayfinding at North Park**
 - **Scope of work:** update traffic wayfinding (signage) in North Park
 - **Budget:** \$ 5500
 - **Status:**
 - Signs in production

- Installation expected in 4-6 weeks.
- **Webb Bridge Park Baseball Dugout Expansion:**
 - **Scope of work:** Expand the size of eight dugouts at the Baseball complex. AYBA is funding 50% of the project.
 - **Budget:** \$37,850 (City commitment \$18,925)
 - **Status:**
 - Construction set began October 3
 - Target Completion: October 31
 - In budget
- **Webb Bridge Baseball Complex Shade Structures replacement:**
 - **Scope of Work:** Replace the fabric on the eight existing bleacher shade structures.
 - **Budget:** \$24,660
 - **Status:**
 - The old fabric has been removed.
 - The new fabric installation is in progress.
- **Webb-Zone Playground Replacement:**
 - **Scope of work:** Remove and replace existing wooden structures for the ages 2-5 and 5-12 play areas. Remove the existing plays mulch replace with new and make any necessary repairs to the drainage.
 - **Budget:** \$400,000
 - **Status:**
 - Proposals were due October 20
 - Proposals currently under review
 - Construction Target: 1st quarter of 2024
- **Gymnastic Facilities Lighting Upgrades:**
 - **Scope of work:** replace current metal halide lighting with LED.
 - **Budget:** \$13,000
 - **Status:**
 - Started the initiative this fall and installation has been completed.
 - The lighting enhances the play and activities in the facilities.

OTHER RELATED PROJECTS:

- **Sewer Work along Greenway:**
 - Fulton County Water and Sewer has been working on sewer upgrades over the past year which have included a portion of the Greenway.
 - Work is in the final phases which include repairs to areas of the greenway that have been damaged because of the work.
 - Phase 1 of concrete repairs occurred last week on the main trail. Now there are no longer closures on the main trail.

- Phase 2 will occur in Mid-December which will include concrete repairs along two secondary accesses south of Kimball Bridge Road.
- **Mansell Boardwalk Replacement:**
 - Public Works is leading the removal and replacement of the existing wooden boardwalk and replacing it with a new concrete-decked boardwalk.
 - Work Began in March of 2023
 - Scheduled completion is March of 2024
- **Manhole of Art Initiative:**
 - The North Fulton Rotary Club has been working with Fulton County Water and Sewer and the City of Alpharetta to enhance the Greenway experience by painting manholes along the Greenway.
 - Last month the Alpharetta Arts Commission approved nine (9) paintings north of the Haynes Bridge Park Greenway Access.
 - The paintings were completed November 11-12 (this past weekend).

b. DIRECTOR

- There was no report from the Director.

VIII. RECREATION COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Scott wished to provide an update on Wacky World. The official build date will be in early November 2024. Upcoming events such as the Tree Lighting, etc. the committee is working hard to ensure a presence to raise awareness, sell bricks, and perhaps lock in key sponsors.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were no public comments.

X. ADJOURNMENT

- ❖ Commissioner Rand made a motion to adjourn.
 - Commissioner Beach seconded the motion.
 - The motion was approved unanimously (8-0).
- ❖ Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amber O'Dwyer
Administrative Office Coordinator



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Amanda Musilli
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Community Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Community Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- CHS AG Business Students developed holiday baskets and learned to make new added value items for their customers. This year they made candles with dried flowers, developed recipe meal-kits, created dining table center pieces, and roasted seeds.
- The AG Program began discussions with the North Fulton Master Gardeners and GNPS about the 2024 Garden Faire plant sale. The City's Community AG Program will be joining their annual event at Wills Park. We believe this will help grow revenue and build awareness for the program.
- The basement grow room was all put together in December, with 12 additional growing racks, providing 48 additional shelves for seedlings to sprout. This will enable the program to grow more in 2024, including growing ore seedlings for the April plant sale.
- Crop planning was completed in December for the year, and we will be putting half of the Grow-A-Row field into cover crop this spring to help build the soil. The other half will go into cover crop in late summer. That field is not as resilient and healthy as the Education Field, and it needs additional nutrients and care to be able to produce better harvests.
- Winter classes in December were well attended, and hosting the evening classes at the Log Cabin was a great success.

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- First seeds go into the soil trays on 1/11, so we will begin growing for 2024 right away.
- March 5th marks the beginning of the spring plant and seed pick up, so all the cool plants need to be ready by then (collards, kale, cabbage, etc.).
- We plan to launch the seed library program with the Milton and Alpharetta Branches in March.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

- There were no questions posed in the previous meeting that warranted a follow-up response from the Community Services Division.

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

January Classes:

- Establishing a Vegetable Garden on 1/11

- Beekeeping Series on 1/14, 1/21, and 1/28
- Bug Hotel on 1/15 and 1/16 (self-serve)
- Birdhouse Gourds Craft on 1/17
- Seed Starting for Success: Part I on 1/24
- Book Club on 1/29

February Classes:

- Container Gardening on 2/7
- Seed Starting for success: Class II on 2/21
- Garden Journaling on 2/22
- How to Grow: Leafy greens on 2/24
- Growing an herb and spice garden on 2/26

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Community Services Presentation - January 2024

Alpharetta Community Agriculture Program



2023 A Year in Review

Provided Meaningful Services to over
600 Volunteers



26% increase in
Community Garden
Growers since 2022



The Grow-A-Row Program
donated OVER 2,000 lbs of produce to our
local food pantry: North Fulton Community
Charities

636 EGGS  
to our local food pantry: North
Fulton Community Charities



OVER
4,680 volunteer
hours on the farm

HOSTED
61 workshops & classes



Funds Raised
by the Community
Agriculture Program
\$32,492.87

Growing Community & Food Together

Provided OVER 4,000
seedlings to our Community
Garden Growers



5 Local Schools

Partnered with our
Community
Agriculture Program



Over 8,000 sq ft of park
land in regenerative
organic food production



Provided **256** farm
bouquets to our local
food pantry: North
Fulton Community
Charities



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services

Submitted By: Kim Z. Manning

Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Cultural Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Cultural Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for the Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Public Art in Parks – (9) Manhole Murals by North Fulton Rotary – “Alpharetta Greenway Mural Trail”

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- Crosswalks in Parks Project - Alpharetta Community Center & Wills Park Pool - Updates
- Play Me Again Pianos – Cogburn Park Piano Update & January Unveiling
- Community Stage “The Spotlight” – MOU North Point Mall & City – Council Meeting Jan 29 Agenda
- The Visitor Sculpture – Donation & Update
- Black History Month – Full Listing Coming Soon to include a Call to the Public for Alpharetta Black History Contributions, Black Music Match–Weekly Live Music Events, Social Media Posts–Meet our Black Artists and Instructors, Arts Studio on the Go–Go–Black Inspired Art in our Parks, and more.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION Q & A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission at the last meeting that warranted a follow-up response from the Cultural Services Division.

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

- *Arts & Culture Online Calendar*
<https://www.alpharetta.ga.us/government/departments/recreation-parks/cultural-services>
- *Alpharetta Music City -- Live Music Calendar*
<https://www.awesomealpharetta.com/calendar/category/alpharetta-music-city-live-music/>
- *Heartwarming Sights & Scenes by Tony Thomas* / Community Gallery at City Hall / Nov 15, 2023 through Jan 12, 2024
- *Atlanta Portrait Society Annual Exhibit* / Alpharetta Arts Center Gallery / Nov 21, 2023 through Jan 20, 2024
- *Antique & Vintage Quilt Turning* presented by Chattahoochee Evening Stars Quilt Guild / Alpharetta Public Library / Jan 20 at 2pm
- *Black History Month* – Coming Soon for the month of February
- *Eurydice* presented by ACT 1 Theater / Alpharetta Arts Center Black Box / Feb 9 -18
- *Girls on Fire* presented by Alpharetta Symphony Orchestra / Alpharetta First United Methodist Church /

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Cultural Services Presentation - January 2024

Alpharetta Recreation Commission Staff Report January 2024

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2
3

DESIGN WORKSHOP FOR MURAL ARTISTS

Congratulations!

On behalf of the Greenway Mural Project, your art piece has been selected as one of the 8 high school paintings to be placed along the hiking trails.

We are very excited for you to join in this collaborative effort.

You are invited to an Artist Design Workshop

SUNDAY OCTOBER 1ST

2:00-5:00

PRESTON RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER

(ATTACHED TO THE YMCA)

3655 PRESTON RIDGE, RD, UNIT 100

ALPHARETTA GA 30005

Attending this workshop is important so that we can polish up designs, discuss a plan & prep for the painting day. We will ask that you sign a participation agreement, a waiver of liability and a social media agreement. If possible, please bring the device you created your work on. I will also have color prints to work from by hand.

Please RSVP AnnaLysa Kimball
annalysakimball@gmail.com



The original photo collage concept





Alpharetta Greenway Mural Trail











Alpharetta Greenway Mural Trail

14 likes • 28 followers

Message

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Mentions

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 Haynes Bridge Park Greenway access,
Alpharetta, GA, United States, Georgia

 annalysakimball@gmail.com



Crosswalks in Parks...Alphairetta Community Center Crosswalk by Artist Reinilda Blair with Arts Alphairetta



**CALL FOR ARTIST:
PLAY ME AGAIN PIANO
COGBURN PARK**

**JOIN THE GROWING LIST OF ARTISTS PARTICIPATING
IN THE PLAY ME AGAIN PIANOS AROUND
ALPHARETTA**

SUBMISSIONS DUE OCT 13

VooHoo!

Artist

**ELEXA
BANCROFT
RADOCK**

Is transforming a donated
"Banana Piana" into the next
work of art destined for

Cogburn Road Park

Alpharetta



AL

alpharettaartscenter

@alpharettaarts... • 23 days ago



Cogburn Road Park Public Piano

Progress Photos!



Play Me Again
PIANOS

BASE LAYER PAINTED

progress is being made on the new
Cogbutn Park Piano by the designer
Alexa Bancroft Radock. Can't wait to
see it once complete!

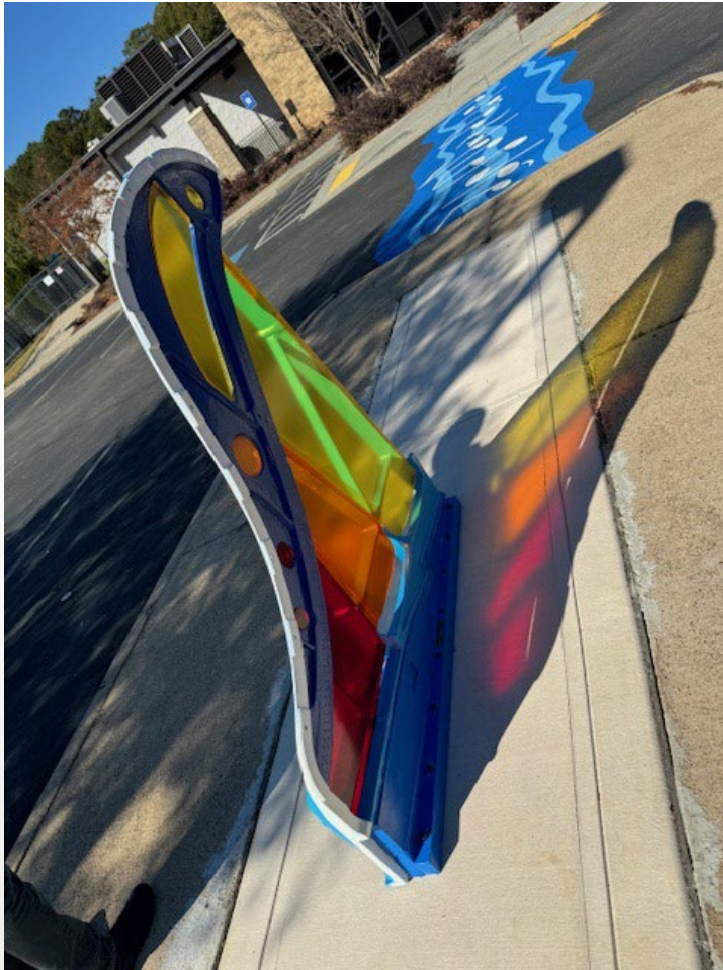
- 1) PIANO PLATE
- 2) WOOD BASE
- 3) LEG BOTTOM BASE
- 4) BOLTS
- 5) CONCRETE POD

sheltoncochrandesigns Current project: turn a 350+ piano plate into an outdoor sculpture for the Alpharetta Aquatic Center titled Rolling Waves at Sunrise.

Public Art in Parks...Wills Park Pool

Crosswalk by Artist Amanda Shelnutt with Arts Alpharetta

Sculpture by Artist Shelton Cochran

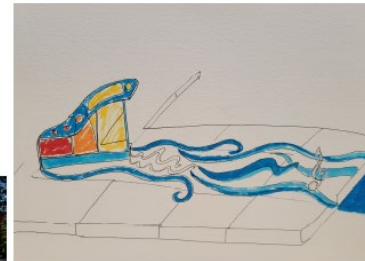


Alpharetta Art Center
238 Canton Street
Alpharetta, Georgia 30009
Crosswalk Proposal (revised 11/8/2023)

To be Provided:
Site Preparation:
• Pressure wash
Materials:
• Cones
• Brushes
• Solvents
• Asphalt paint—Blues (2), White



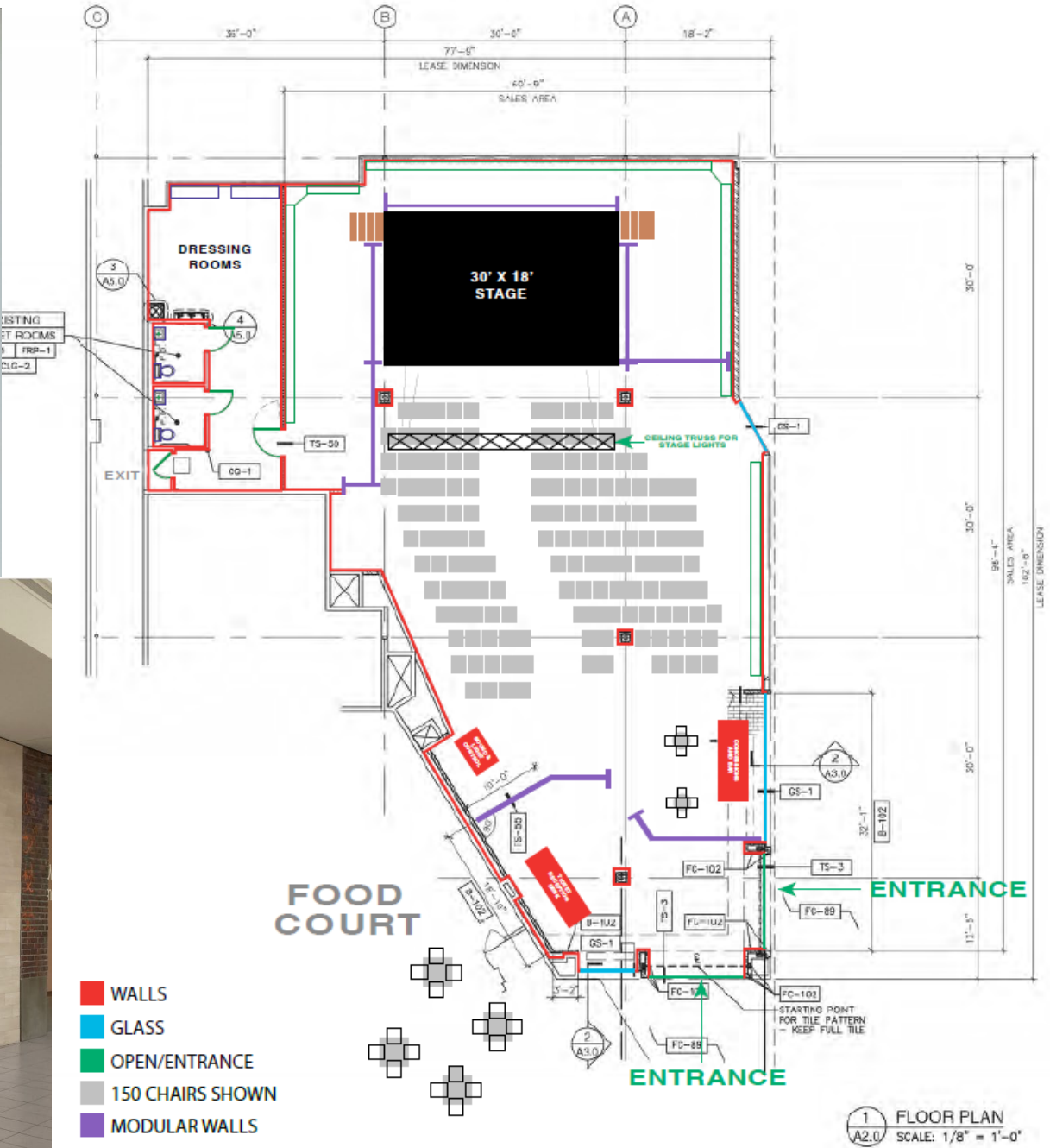
Crosswalk (Pool) Finishing Crosswalk Paint:
• Wave/Water/ Treble Clef
• Paint components by hand to "connect" the new sculpture pad and crosswalk motifs



ASHEL FINE ART, LLC
5250 Concord Downs Drive
Cumming, Georgia 30040
ashelfineart@gmail.com 404.729.3955

Amanda K. Shelnutt, Fine Art Consultant





ACVB – Donates \$5,000 to Repair & Refurbish The Visitor Sculpture





We're excited to announce our first show at the Alpharetta Arts Center Gallery.

The opening reception will be from 5pm to 7pm on December 2nd. Arts Alpharetta is a vibrant arts community and we look forward to our first PSA exhibition at the Alpharetta Arts Center Gallery. Join us at the opening reception in this beautiful gallery for the awards presentation, hors d'œuvres and live music.



Below, Award Winners from our last exhibition:



(L to R): *Adam The Violinist* by Linda Maphet; *Money for Nothing Chicks for Free* by Michele Smither; *Baby* by Eric Nyros



HEARTWARMING SIGHTS AND SCENES
BEAUTIFUL PAINTINGS AND PRINTS BY ARTIST

Tony Thomas



WHERE: THE COMMUNITY GALLERY AT CITY HALL
IN ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA

WHEN: NOVEMBER 15TH 2023 - JANUARY 12TH 2024



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THEATER
PRESENTS



EURYDICE

BY SARAH RUHL

February 9 – February 18, 2024

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM, Sunday Matinees at 2:00 PM

Alpharetta Arts Center
238 Canton St., Alpharetta, GA 30009



act1theater.org | (770) 663-8989



GIRLS ON FIRE

A CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN MUSIC

Friday, February 23 at 8:00pm

AlphaTheta Methodist Church



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Christine Young
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Recreation Services Division Monthly Report - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Recreation Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- SEASON OF CELEBRATION highlights: Tree Lighting 11/18; Hop & Shop 12/2, Flicks & Flurries 12/16
- Breakfast with Santa at the AAAC
- Lifesaving awards; City Council 12/18 Eli Haverdink & Adam Penn
- Homers for the Holidays: Home Run Derby at North Park 12/19
- Tennis & Pickleball Courts at North Park

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- None

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

- No questions were posed by the Recreation Commission at the last meeting that warranted a follow-up response from the Recreation Services Division.

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS:

- New staff member: Lyndsey Macon, Special Events Coordinator
- Youth Basketball 2023-2024
- Summer Guide is in the works; available online Feb 9; registration begins Feb 28 Residents; Mar 13 OPEN
- Upcoming Events: Polar Plunge 2/3; Family Dance: Tropical Paradise 2/10

ATTACHMENTS:

1. January 24 RC Staff Report

Recreation Services

January

2024





Season of Celebration Tree Lighting



1,500+ IN ATTENDANCE
1 MAIN STAGE
7 PERFORMANCES
16 SNOW MACHINES
SANTA, GRINCH & CINDY-LOU WHO SIGHTINGS
OVER 2,000 MARSHMALLOW ROASTED
1 BEAUTIFULLY LIT TREE

Breakfast with Santa

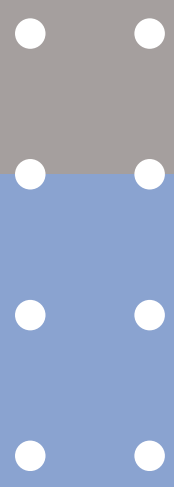


Lifesaving Awards

ELI HAVERDINK

ADAM PENN

ALEX FROM SAFETY PENN



Homers for the Holidays

10 Adults

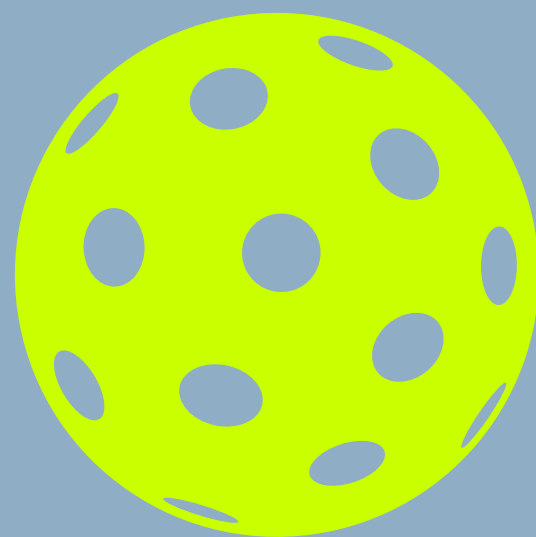
20+ Youth

A great donation to Toys for Tots

A fun activity to build on!



NP Tennis & Pickleball



THE COURTS ARE
CALLING YOU IN 2024



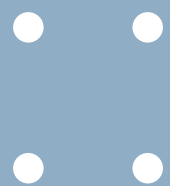
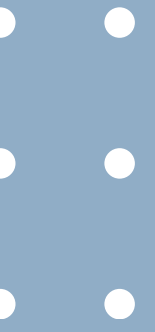
Welcome!

Lyndsey Macon

SPECIAL

EVENTS

COORDINATOR



Youth Basketball

324 PLAYERS



Summer 2024

Registration Dates:

Resident: 2/28

Open: 3/13

GUIDE AVAILABLE

ONLINE

2/9

**Coollest
Summer
Ever!**



Rotary Polar Plunge 2/3

Upcoming:

Family Dance:
Tropical Paradise 2/10



Happy New Year



EXCITED TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY IN 2024!



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Eric Milley
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part I) - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Park Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department for the parks located within the northern, southern, eastern, and downtown districts of the City of Alpharetta.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- We have three vacant park Technicians we have been interviewing to fill and are in the background process of the onboard process of hiring. The reasons for the vacant positions are promotions and people retiring.
- We are currently in the process of scheduling the annual pine straw and mulch replacement at all parks, city center, and medians.
- We are currently working on the replacement of the six missing Main Street trees. They were declining trees that have already been removed.
- Over at Innovation we are selectively pruning and removing trees and branches that are encroaching on playing fields and trying to promote growth on the more structured and healthier trees.
- We are currently in phase two of the actual building of the approved dog park addition out at Webb Bridge. The tree removal and pruning has been complete, now we are working on the construction of the slate walking trail.
- At the ballfield complex at Webb Bridge, we have removed twelve declining maples and replaced them with a different maple that will be more narrow and not as tall when mature.

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- The next two months selective pruning, removal, and tree replacement will continue in all parks.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission at the last meeting that warranted a follow-up response from the Park Services Division.

ATTACHMENTS:

None



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Matt Casey
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Park Services Division Monthly Report (Part II) - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Park Services Division of the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services Department for Wills Park Proper, Wills Park Equestrian, and parks located in the western district of the City of Alpharetta.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Equestrian Center finished out the year strong with 3 Nationally Rated horseshows in December. Events will start back January 6, 2024.
- Staff has added infield mix to all ballfields in preparation for upcoming season.
- Entrances to park facilities have been pressure washed. Recreation Center playground and Tennis court bridge have also been pressure washed and sealed.
- Mid Broadwell park had a large section of underbrush cut and removed from the middle of the property. Staff will be looking into adding some natural passive trails in the near future.

MONTHLY INITIATIVES:

- The covered arena will be Laser graded within the next couple weeks.
- The nets to the Covered will all be replaced beginning in February prior to baseball season. This will be a joint project with AYBA to ensure player safety.

RECREATION COMMISSION Q & A:

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission during the last meeting that required a follow-up response from the Park Services Division.

ATTACHMENTS:

None



STAFF REPORT

Department: Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
Submitted By: Kurt Kirby
Meeting Date: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

Senior Operations Manager Monthly Report - January 2024

Report on the latest updates, projects, events, and/or initiatives from the Senior Operations Manager of the Recreation, Park & Cultural Services Department.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is presented for Recreation Commission discussion and information purposes. No vote or formal action is requested at this time.

ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Updates for projects and program initiatives for the 4th quarter of 2023. Bond updates are scheduled for the January 25, 2024, Recreation Commission Work Session.

PARK ENHANCEMENTS:

- **North Park Tennis/Pickleball Courts Resurfacing:** Work on the Court Completed December 8, 2023
- **Traffic Wayfinding at North Park:** Work completed December 15, 2023.
- **Webb Bridge Park Baseball Dugout Expansion:** Work Completed December 1, 2023
- **Webb Bridge Park Baseball Complex Shade Structures Replacement:** Work Completed November 14, 2023
- **Webb Bridge Park Dog Park:** Work Began November 7, 2023

OTHER RELATED PROJECTS

- **North Park Turf 2 Pole Removal and Lighting Upgrades (Exhibit A):** Wooden Poles were taken down in December 2023 due to damage caused by woodpeckers.
- **Sewer Work along Greenway:** Completed December 15
- **Mansell Boardwalk Replacement:** Scheduled completion 2nd quarter 2024

ITEMS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

- **Mid-Broadwell Playground Construction:** Approved December 18, 2023
- **Webb-Zone Playground Replacement:** For consideration January 8, 2024
- **Miracle League Field Replacement:** For consideration January 8, 2024
- **Equestrian Center Water Truck Replacement:** For consideration January 8, 2024

RECREATION COMMISSION Q&A

- There were no questions posed by the Recreation Commission at the last meeting that warranted a follow-up response from the Senior Operations Manager.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Exhibit A: Turf 2 Light Pole Photos





SPEED-MARK™ 4 **DURA NY-Coat™** 5 **KOMELON®** 6 **NYLON COAT** 7 **PR. APP'D PTA-01-115** 8 9

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

30ft
in

SPEED-MAKER™

DURA NY-Coat™

KOMELON®

NYLON
COAT

P.R. APP'D
PTA-01-115

1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8