

**FREDERICKSBURG
RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of January 17, 2019**

The January meeting of the Fredericksburg Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at the Dorothy Hart Community Center.

Commissioners Present: Mr. David Dorsey, Mrs. Sharon Null, Mr. Cameron John, Mr. Brandon McVade, Mrs. Sue Sargeant, Dr. John Russ Absent: Dr. Tim Duffy, Dr. Marcus Tepaske, Mr. James Bailey

Also in attendance: Director Jane Shelhorse, Mrs. Janice Lasker

- I. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of October 18, 2018 were approved.
- II. **Introduction of City Staff** – Director Shelhorse introduced Doug Fawcett, Assistant City Manager. Mr. Fawcett has been with the City for many years in various roles, but it is within the last two years that he has been Assistant City Manager. Because he is more accessible than the City Manager, our Department now reports directly to Mr. Fawcett.
- III. **Opportunity for Public Comment** – none
- IV. **Communications from Director:**
 - A. **Financial Report** – Director Shelhorse shared the financial reports through November, 2018. Due to the City having just converted from the Bright System to the new MUNIS system for financial reporting, we were not prepared to present an accurate year-end report. Up to date financial information should be available at our February meeting.
 - B. **Leisure Report** – Director Shelhorse presented an overview of the New Year's Eve Family Fun Night, which had a new format this year. It was well attended with 650 people, but due to the high costs and amount of work associated with hosting the event, we are rethinking the program and our role for 2019. We are planning for the upcoming pool season, and anticipate sufficient staffing will continue to be a problem. Earth Day is April 27th and planning is underway.
 - C. **Special Events** – The Department has been busy transitioning the members of the events team. With Sonja Wise having been promoted to the City's new PIO, she will step away from the special event side of her current position but will continue to do the

marketing for the department. Kim Herbert will take on full time status as the Supervisor of Special Events. Kim will be assisted by Sammy Walker, who will take over the Special Events Coordinator position. Christian Navas has now taken on a full time position helping both Kim and Sammy on the events team. All three will have no lack of activities to keep them busy as our event requests continue to grow in both number and size.

D. Sports and Parks – Basketball is underway. Registration is open for both soccer and field hockey. Due to the increasing popularity of the trails at Mott’s Reservoir, the Department is looking at moving the entry gate further back along the road in order to accommodate more cars, particularly when the park is closed for the season. The Department plans to add more parking spaces at Sunshine Park due to the ongoing construction along I-95, which will impact the current parking. Doug Fawcett gave a brief overview of the City’s long term plan for trail expansion.

E. Director Shelhorse shared a list of trees planted in our parks by Tree Fredericksburg to replace several that have been lost during the year.

V. Noteworthy Dates – Director Shelhorse reviewed upcoming events and reminded the Commissioners that the City Branding meetings were wrapping up that evening. She encouraged Commissioners, who had not already attended, to attend the one following our meeting.

VI. Old Business:

A. Rock the Red – The project has been sent out for bids, which are due back January 31. We are aiming for a possible ground breaking on March 12, 2019.

B. Riverfront Park – Doug Fawcett noted that although our October minutes stated that the project was ready to go to bid, that information was a bit optimistic. The Dovetail Group is currently conducting the final archaeology work in the park to find and remove any remaining historical artifacts. Dovetail will clear the way so that once a bid is accepted in April, there should be no reason for the contractor to have to halt work. A mid to late summer construction start is the latest goal.

- C. Volunteer Appreciation Event** – Director Shelhorse asked for feedback on the volunteer social that was held in November. Overall, Commissioners were pleased with the new format and felt that attendees enjoyed it more than the sit down dinners of the past. Commissioners felt the hour and a half time frame was appropriate and enjoyed seeing the Department partner with FAM for the event. One suggestion was to have a few more tables and chairs to accommodate the number of guests. Director Shelhorse shared that the Department will be partnering with FAM in August to hold a USO dance at the DHCC.
- D. Strategic Plan for Parks** - Director Shelhorse noted that it is out for bid to professional services companies with a due date of February 6.

VII. New Business:

1. Director Shelhorse mentioned the employee shuffle in our Department.
2. **February Meeting** – Due to a conflict, Director Shelhorse asked if we could change the date of the February meeting. The Commissioners agreed on Wednesday, February 27th.

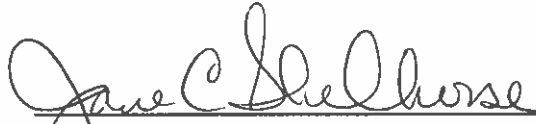
VIII. Directors/Commission Concerns and Topics –

Commissioner Sargeant went on the Department trip to the Mormon Temple for the Festival of Lights and was impressed with the organization and logistics of trip planning. She said the miserable weather and heavy traffic did not deter from the enjoyment as the rain made the lights more spectacular.

Commissioner Dorsey mentioned that the Face the River group will be planting some native trees mentioned by the botanical people formerly interested in Cossey Park to see how they survive along the river. Commissioner Dorsey would like to meet with people to discuss promoting the Director's Fund.

Director Shelhorse shared that we are soliciting sponsors for the dasher boards/panels for the hockey rink at Dixon Park. A single panel ad will be \$3,000/year. Anyone interested in making a larger donation can go through the Fredanthropists group. For a \$10,000 donation, they will get advertising at the hockey rink, the Urban Slide and several other places/events.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

 2/27/19
Jane C. Shelhorse Date
Director

**Next Meeting Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 6:30pm at the Dorothy
Hart Community Center**