

Board Members

Clayton Lescalleet, Chairman
Joseph Villari, Vice Chairman
Tommy Bailey, Treasurer
John Wright
Vacant, Lee District
Gary Rzepecki, Director



Minutes

*A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FAUQUIER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD WAS HELD ON
JULY 16, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.,
430 EAST SHIRLEY AVENUE, WARRENTON, VIRGINIA*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Clayton Lescalleet, Chairman
Joseph Villari, Vice Chairman
John Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tommy Bailey, Treasurer

PRESENT PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF

Gary Rzepecki, Director
Cara Cassell, Programming, Marketing, & Communications Superintendent
Michael Hanson, Projects and Planning Superintendent
Paul Scott, Maintenance Superintendent
Monica Dyer, Warrenton Community Center Manager
Justine Ceja, Public Information Specialist

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Clayton Lescalleet called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Agenda

Joseph Villari motioned to approve the agenda as printed and John Wright seconded the motion, as such, it passed unanimously.

III. Comments from Citizens

None

IV. Presentations and Commendations

a. Joseph Villari read aloud the Proclamation for National Volunteer Week.

V. Consent Agenda

a. January 29, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

-Joseph Villari motioned to approve the April 16, 2025, minutes as printed, John Wright seconded the motion, as such, it passed unanimously.

VI. Reports

a. Trails Report

- Gary Rzepecki shared updates on four trail projects currently underway in the community. The Grace Miller Elementary Safe Routes to School project awarded its construction contract to M&F Concrete, Inc., with work expected to start on Monday, July 21, 2025. The Laurel Ridge Community College Trail is moving through its planning phase, with 30% completed and plans currently under review by both Parks and Recreation and VDOT. Mr. Rzepecki noted that progress is also unfolding on the Warrenton Chase Trail and the Woods at Warrenton Connector Trail, where the HOA has approved the concept and a dedicated resident is working on applying for a PATH grant to support the installation of a bench and a mini library. Lastly, Bruce Worrall initiated the clearing for the newest trail Northern Fauquier Community Park. Further work is planned for the winter, including wood chip surfacing, native plant labels, and a future stream crossing.

VII. Action Items

a. Major Fund Project Priority

-Michael Hanson provided a brief overview of the project spreadsheets, beginning with the county-approved Capital Improvement Plan, which was shared for reference and informational purposes. He then reviewed the current working plan, highlighting changes from the approved version. He noted that the Capital Improvement Plan spans five years. The plan for fiscal year 2031, which will be submitted in October, remains undecided and is currently marked in gray.

Mr. Hanson shared for the past 12 years, the top funding request has been the Ballfields, Playgrounds, and Trails (BPT), supported by a dedicated fund. Historically, some of that money has been reallocated to the Asset Replacement Fund (ARF), and this year, the BPT merged with ARF, resulting in the significantly higher dollar amount that is currently shown. Mr. Rzepecki added that they will work on obtaining estimates for Starke Park's VDOT entrance, parking lot, septic relocation, and ADA-compliant parking and expressed gratitude to board member John Wright for the insights he has provided on this project. The remainder of funding would ideally come from donations, and the department is considering hiring a professional estimator. John Wright, offered to prepare a preliminary cost estimate for budget planning based on the concept design to assist with a ballpark budget on what to expect.

Mr. Hanson moved on to discuss the county's adopted Asset Replacement Plan. He shared that his requests are generally approved at consistent levels but invited the board to consider increasing future requests if desired. The next page covered a prioritized list of 15 major projects, once finalized, the list will be formatted into a spreadsheet for October. Clayton Lescalleet suggested for board members to use this list as a reference during meetings with their district supervisors.

Mr. Hanson explained the following section which addressed the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan that outlines needs associated with aging facilities. The most significant projects include several paving projects, phase-based development at Northern Fauquier Community Park, and upgrades to the Larry Weeks Community Pool. Mr. Hanson noted this plan operates on a two-

year cycle under an operational fund, meaning allocated funds must be spent within the fiscal year or they'll expire. An asbestos study is planned for the Marshall Community Center. Gary Rzepecki reported roughly \$150,000 in excess revenue which are planned to go towards updates at the Vint Hill Community Center and Larry Weeks Pool. This will include new flooring in the Vint Hill Community Center's activity room. Mr. Rzepecki also shared that Larry Weeks Community Pool has recently received new mural paintings, interior ceiling repairs, TVs, and ceiling fans will be installed soon. Another major item involves designing an entrance at Crockett Park, with a gate to maintain nighttime safety. Once foundational projects like trails and parking lots are complete, focus will shift to more community-focused enhancements such as fishing piers and playgrounds.

In closing, Mr. Hanson requested that an amendment is made to the suggested motion, to add "we need to continue the development".

John Wright made the motion to approve the capital improvement plan, asset replacement fund, comprehensive maintenance plan projects as presented for continued development through the county's office of budget and management policies and procedures, Joseph Villari seconded the motion, as such it passed unanimously.

Information Items

- b. MCC Advisory Committee Minutes (March, April, May)
- c. Land Development Comments

VIII. Board Time

-Joseph Villari visited several Fauquier County Parks and Recreation locations including Riverside Preserve, Northern Fauquier Community Park (NFCP), and Vint Hill. As he spoke with visitors at each site, they shared key words such as relaxing, sanctuary, decompression, whole family destination, well maintained trails, beautiful trees, low cost/free, and regular outdoor spot. He noted that at NFCP, in particular, a park visitor noted that it's the only location where they expressed feeling safe while walking. In closing, he enthusiastically recognized Cara Cassell for her exceptional work on the Inaugural Cultural Heritage Festival that took place in April, applauding her tremendous team's effort in bringing the community together through a successful event.

-Clayton Lescalleet shared that he has met with all but one member of the Board of Supervisors. Each meeting was productive, and the park walks he takes with Gary Rzepecki have been both enjoyable and informative. He encourages board members to participate in these walks, noting that several Supervisors have already accepted the invitation. These outings offer valuable opportunities to showcase ongoing projects and future plans, helping to build support for funding.

- Gary Rzepecki added that he will be selective in choosing locations for the walks and will aim to align them with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects for maximum impact. He then introduced Paul Scott as the new Maintenance Superintendent, who began his role earlier this week.

-Mr. Scott shared a brief overview of his background, highlighting over 27 years of experience with Fairfax County Public Schools. He is also a licensed electrician and has taught courses at Laurel

Ridge Community College. He expressed his enthusiasm about starting his new position with Fauquier County Parks and Recreation.

Lastly, Mr. Lescalleet introduced Monica Dyer to the board as the new Manager of the Warrenton Community Center. He explained that Ms. Dyer recently transitioned from County Administration to join the Parks and Recreation Department and noted how pleased he is to have her on the team.

IX. Closed Session

None

X. Adjournment

Without further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 P.M.