

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Phil Bazemore Active Adult Center
500 S. Jefferson Street
Monroe, NC 28112
Tuesday, October 15, 2024 - 6:00 PM

AGENDA

- Item 1.** **Introductions**
- Item 2.** **Commission Purpose and Roles**
- Item 3.** **Approval of Minutes - July 16, 2024 and August 20, 2024**
- Item 4.** **Division Updates (Athletics & Special Events, Community Centers,
Monroe Aquatics & Fitness Center, Monroe Country Club, Bazemore
Active Adult Center)**
- Item 5.** **Skate Park Update**
- Item 6.** **Pickleball Update**
- Item 7.** **Technology/QR Code Updates**
- Item 8.** **Sponsorships**
- Item 9.** **Other**

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 16, 2024
MINUTES**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in the Phil Bazemore Active Adult Center, 500 W. Jefferson Street, Monroe, North Carolina at 6:00PM on July 16, 2024.

Members Present: Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee, Debbie Dillion, John Thomasson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ryan Jones, Tyson Carrier, Darren Baucom, Kellie Corcoran-Walters, Aleshia Holland, Thomas Latimer and Angie Sustar

Visitors: Dr. Joe Milner, Lisa Hollowell, Christine Prince, Diane Rockwell, Justin Prince, Richard Rockwell, Patricia Tiddy, John Tiddy, Eric Brooks, Anne Livingstone, Octavio Carballido, David Guzman, Hunter Pertovic, Chelone Garrett, Seavy Garrett, Matthew Alexi, Crikisa Rangel, Lori Montao, Shannon Bayliss

Chairman/Council Member McGee called the meeting to order at 6:12PM and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item No. 1. Public Comment Period

- Christine Prince – Pickleball
- Diane Rockwell – Indoor Pickleball
- Justin Prince – Pickleball/Facility availability
- Octavio Carballido – Skate Park
- David Guzman – Skate Park
- Hunter Pertovic – Skate Park
- Chelone Garrett – Skate Park
- Seavy Garrett – Skate Park
- Matthews Alexi – Skate Park
- Shannon Bayliss – Dickerson Pickleball Courts

Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee thanked everyone for their input.

Item No. 2. Community Center Upfits

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones addressed Ms. Rockwell's concern about the Winchester gymnasium HVAC. He acknowledged that he had spoken to Ms. Rockwell previously and a replacement HVAC unit has been ordered.

Mr. Jones advised that some of the community center upfits scheduled over the next year will address many items that will affect Pickleball and he stated the following items have been approved:

- Gymnasium floor replacement at community centers. This is a top priority. The floors will be lined for indoor pickleball.
- Gymnasium basketball goals and backboards replacement at community centers
- General upfit of the community centers: replacing restroom partitions and fixtures
- General floor replacement at community centers (lobby and classrooms)
- Painting interior of community centers
- Gymnasium bleachers replacement at Winchester Community Center to provide accessible seating
- Window tinting of our after-school classrooms
- Pickleball renovations and improvements

Mr. Jones thanked everyone and shared that he is happy to see the amount of advocacy for the programs. He advised that improvements at the community centers would be seen over the next fiscal year.

Item No. 3. Pickleball Discussion

Mr. Jones stated that the gymnasium floor replacement projects were largely related to Pickleball as well. He advised that several potential areas are being looked at for additional courts. He advised that by evaluating the types of courts we have now and the footprints that exist at certain facilities we can better determine how to grow the Pickleball courts in the most efficient way possible. He advised that a contractor is working on a proposal to let us know what can be done to retrofit the current footprint and the potential cost involved. A brief discussion ensued regarding locations and the need for adequate space for courts and to ensure additional space around the perimeter of the courts.

Chairman/Council Member McGee stated that his goal is to have a Pickleball Complex to have a space where Monroe can be the leader in show casing a nice complex where we can house tournaments. He thanked everyone for their comments and discussion.

Item No. 4. New Initiatives

Mr. Jones advised that divisional program updates would be provided in this section as well.

Recreation Updates:

Community Center Supervisor Thomas Latimer provided an update of programs currently offered:

- ACE Academy - the week of June 24th
- Music Camp - June 25th, 26th, & 28th
- Back to School Bash – July 27th at Winchester
- Black Top Gives Community Event – August 10th 10:00AM – 6:00PM at Sunset Park
- Fun Day Block Party – July 20th at J Ray Shute

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center:

MAFC Superintendent Kellie Corcoran-Walters provided an update on programs currently underway including:

- School Supply drive donations are being accepted at the MAFC lobby. Backpacks will be filled and donated to UCPS for children in our area.
- Mobile Book Bus – July 17th Noon – 2:00PM – All children visiting the bus will receive a free book of their choice.
- American Red Cross Blood Drive – July 18th
- Water Park Splash Bash – July 27th – 11:00AM – 2:00PM

- Outdoor Lap Swimming at the Water Park on Fridays 8:00 – 9:30AM.
- Staff Appreciation Pool Party is Friday, June 21st. The facility will close at 5:00PM.

Parks Maintenance Superintendent Darren Baucom provided an update on projects that are currently underway and shared a snapshot of the responsibilities and areas maintained by the division.

- Sunset Park restroom project nears completion. Installation of the Control-Link automatic door locking system should take place within the next few weeks.

Athletics:

Athletics/Special Event Supervisor Tyson Carrier provided a snapshot of youth athletic programs currently offered.

- Skills and Drills Basketball Academy sessions at J Ray Shute – Monday evenings
- Skills and Drills Baseball Academy sessions to be scheduled
- Flag Football practices start Thursday, July 18th – 140 participants registered – 12 teams
- Fall Soccer registration closes July 31st
- Summer Camps
 - Kenny Gattison basketball clinics offered free at Dickerson and Winchester Community Centers.
 - All sports camp at Sunset Park on August 5th – 6th

Special Events: Mr. Carrier provided an update on events taking place.

- Juneteenth event took place on Saturday, June 15th at Belk Tonawanda Park.
- Latin Festival is scheduled for June 23rd at Downtown Monroe
- July 4th Celebration

Active Adult Center:

Bazemore Active Adult Center Supervisor Aleshia Holland provided an update of programs currently underway:

- Lunch and Learn with Home Instead – Thursday, July 26th
- Charleston Trip in December – Registration opens August 1st
- Hendersonville, NC Day Trip in October – Registration opens August 23rd
- Partnering with the Police Department to offer several classes on Personal Safety, Home Safety, and Self Defense
- Shag Dance Lessons – September – 4-weeks
- Partnering with the Fire Department to provide a CPR class for participants
- Partnering with the Council on Aging to provide SHIIP appointments – Open Enrollment October 15th – December 7th

Item No. 4. Other Business

Skate Park:

As a follow up to the last meeting, Mr. Jones asked committee members if they would like to take a trip to tour the Waxhaw Sk8 Park and Pump Track facility at next meeting. A brief discussion followed involving committee members.

Chairman/Council Member McGee stated that he wanted to circle back to Innovation Initiatives relating to QR codes. He shared briefly about the value of having QR codes in our community centers and parks to access programming information, to know what is happening in our city, and for the public to provide feedback. He stated that his goal is to have the best amenities in the county and that

Monroe be the leader in all these aspects. He advised the visitors if they see a QR code to scan it and provide feedback.

Mr. Jones stated that providing feedback helps, as staff cannot be everywhere at all times and by making us aware of an issue in a park or a facility, it can be addressed. This also helps us prioritize and improve; we want to know how we are doing. With honest feedback, we can see where we are missing things and be held accountable.

There being no further business, Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Member Thomasson

Action: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Members Dillion and Thomasson, and Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

**CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2024
MINUTES**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Monroe, North Carolina met in the Phil Bazemore Active Adult Center, 500 W. Jefferson Street, Monroe, North Carolina at 6:00PM on August 20, 2024.

Members Present: Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee, Debbie Dillion, John Thomasson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ryan Jones, Tyson Carrier, Aleshia Holland, Thomas Latimer and Angie Sustar

Visitors: Octavio Carballido, Jacob Salinas, Christine Prince, Kristy Privette, Greg Privette, Rick Rockwell, Lori Monteo, Diane Lyon, and Dave Lyon

Chairman/Council Member McGee called the meeting to order at 6:05PM and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes – June 18, 2024

Motion: Member Dillion moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2024 meeting.

Second: Member Thomasson

Action: The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: Member Dillion, Thomasson and Chairman/Council Member McGee

NAYS: None

Item No. 2. Initial Pickleball Court Design Discussion

Parks and Recreation Director Ryan Jones shared a conceptual design of the Dickerson courts remodel. He advised this design would provide pickleball courts with permanent nets and three tennis courts that will be lined for pickleball to provide additional pickleball courts. A brief discussion followed regarding the layout and direction of the courts, the perimeter fencing and gates, and court usage by area schools. It was suggested to turn the courts 90° to avoid the sun in players' faces and have adequate spacing between and around the courts. Mr. Jones stated this design meets the need and will not displace tennis players.

Mr. Jones advised that the next step would be for the Commission to make a motion that they have reviewed the conceptual design of the Dickerson tennis courts remodel and contingent on the adjustments provide a favorable recommendation.

Motion: Member Thomasson made the motion to recommend moving forward with the plan with the provisos that if possible to reorient the pickleball courts so that they allow for morning and evening sun.

Second: Member Dillion

Action: Motion approved

AYES: **Members Dillion and Thomasson, and Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee**
NAYS: **None**

Mr. Jones announced an adjustment to the order and Item No. 4 would move before Item No. 3.

Item No. 4. Other Business

Mr. Jones provided an update on the replacement of the Winchester Gymnasium HVAC unit. The new unit was ordered last month and should arrive mid-September.

Mr. Jones advised that the contract with RFS Sports Flooring for the replacement and resurfacing of gymnasium floors at the community centers has been received. Once scheduled, the project will take eight to twelve weeks to complete.

Mr. Jones presented templates of the finalized QR codes and advised that a code will be posted at all community centers and shelters to allow you to scan the code to register for programs, check availability, and provide feedback.

Item No. 3. Visit Waxhaw Sk8 Park

Chairman/Council Member McGee declared a recess at 6:24PM for the commission to travel to the Waxhaw Sk8 Park. Throughout the tour of the Waxhaw Sk8 Park and Downtown Park, Committee members asked various questions regarding the amenities with at times brief discussions taking place. Mr. Jones and Chair McGee provided insights in answering questions from committee members.

There being no further business, Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Member Dillion made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Member Thomasson
Action: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: **Members Dillion and Thomasson, and Chairman/Council Member Franco McGee**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM