

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
PHIL BAZEMORE ACTIVE ADULT CENTER
500 S. JEFFERSON STREET
MONROE, NC 28112
FEBRUARY 18, 2025 - 6:00 PM**

AGENDA

1. Public Input
2. Approval of Minutes - January 28, 2025
3. Parks and Recreation Division Updates
4. Recognition Discussion
5. Old Business Updates
 - A. Skate Park
 - B. Dickerson Disc Golf Course
 - C. Community Center Kiosks
 - D. Community Center Floors
 - E. Flowcodes

CITY OF MONROE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
PHIL BAZEMORE ACTIVE ADULT CENTER
500 W. JEFFERSON STREET, MONROE, NC 28112
JANUARY 28, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Members Present: Chairman Franco McGee, John Thomasson, Debbie Dillion, and Joseph Milner

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Pete Hovanec, Alison Nichols, Aleshia Holland, Lisa Hollowell, Jeffrey Wells, Randy Davis, Leann Yandle, Tyson Carrier, and Thomas Latimer

Visitors: Tiffany Smith, Ron Lawson, Rashawn Harris, George Massey II, Larry Russell, Zada Allen, Nancy B. Massey, George Massey, Sr., Tahira Stalberte, Rev. Jimmy H. Bention, Sr., Sandra Greene, Angela Foster, Tanyon Martin, Mildred Martin, Necole Martin Bennett, Rodney Wynn, Sandra Boulware, Karyl Jones, Mike Jones, John Kirkpatrick, Kelsey Livingston, Jen Moore, Greg Moore, Kevin Plue, Jonathan Tyson, Mark A. Isly, Jason Eubank, Jay Jones, Tiffany Wilson, Nciyah Burbour, Danny Reid, Arielle Reid, Jackie Wright, Henry Chandler, Craig Little, Joe Major

Chairman McGee called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Item No. 1 Public Input Chairman McGee invited any of the visitors to speak.

Mr. Rodney Wynn noted that that youth baseball program in our county has faded away over the years because of focus on other sports.

Mr. Patrick Harris noted that he coaches basketball and is having a great season.

Item No.2 Parks and Recreation Celebrations and Recognitions Chairman McGee introduced this item to recognize people who have partnered with Parks and Recreation and contributed to the Monroe community's commitment to wellness and connection.

Mr. Davis recognized and presented certificates to the following organizations and representatives: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Monroe Police Department – Monique Holt, A Few Good Men – George Massey, Monroe Housing Authority, Elite Ryders, Sandra Boulware, Monroe Fire Station #4, Dr. Angela E. Taylor-Foster, Kelsey Livingston, Crimson Wellness – Rodney Wynn, Rameses Court 78 – Tiffany Smith, Rameses Temple 51 – Ronald Lawson, Winchester Alumni – Nancy Massey, Zeta Phi Beta – Tanyon Martin, National Mountford Point Marines, Monroe Middle School, Tiffany Wilson, Our Heart, Our Home – Mike and Karyl Jones, Omega Psi Phi – Henry Chandler, Monroe Police Department, Monroe Athletic Foundation.

Item No. 3 Approval of Minutes – December 17, 2024 Dr. Milner made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2024 meeting. Mr. Thomasson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: McGee, Dillion, Milner, and Thomasson

NAYS: None

Item No. 4 Parks and Recreation Division Updates Mr. Hovanec asked staff to present divisional updates.

- Mr. Latimer presented community center updates, including planned celebrations for Black History Month and Valentine’s Day, as well as reminders that community center gym floor renovations will begin on March 1. Numbers at the community centers continue to increase.
- Ms. Holland presented Bazemore Active Adult Center updates, including review of a successful trip and the introduction of a movie night. Ms. Holland also discussed plans to expand programming to make use of the facility’s outdoor area and presented renderings of the project. The complete project is estimated at \$500,000, but City departments could do some of the work to reduce costs. Mr. Hovanec noted that this would not be included in the upcoming year’s budget; staff wants to refine the plan and phase it in gradually. The board discussed the merits of the plan.
- Ms. Yandle presented an update for the Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center, including the challenge of dealing with broken glass on the pool deck. January’s numbers have been some of the largest ever; membership is almost back to pre-Covid numbers. Staff is working to track internal statistics to provide better service. Two new corporate members have joined, and several lifeguards will be receiving a national Red Cross award for saving a life. Online swim registration was successful, and the Coffee Nut is expanding to stay open an extra day each week. Ms. Yandle reviewed upcoming events at the MAFC. Ms. Yandle and board members discussed the Angel Tree.
- Mr. Carrier presented an update for athletics. Basketball season is wrapping up, and baseball, softball, and track and field are gearing up for a new season. Ian Landeen is a new much-needed full-time staff member in Athletics and Special Events. Basketball had 240 kids, the highest number since Covid. Volunteer coaches have been great and want to come coach in Monroe. The new gym floors will be a big draw. Adult sports return with basketball and softball.
- Mr. Hovanec presented an updated on the golf course, which has been doing very well. The course has been shut down for a few weeks because of the extremely cold weather, and the indoor golf simulator contract is being processed. Some professional golfers have started an indoor simulated league, which is great timing for the introduction of our new simulator facility. The board discussed location and timeline of the facility and potential financial benefits.

Item No. 5 Community Center Floor Replacement Mr. Hovanec explained that Ryan Jones, previous Parks & Recreation director and current Property Management director, had compiled three bids for new

floors for community centers, and is asking for this board to approve the recommendation for the Kell Marketing quote for \$202,459 to go to General Services and then to City Council to award the bid to Kell Marketing and authorize the city manager to approve the bid. The funds have already been earmarked.

The board and staff discussed the features and durability of the luxury vinyl tile that would be used.

Chairman McGee, Ms. Hollowell, and Mr. Hovanec discussed the process and necessity of sending this to General Services for approval.

Ms. Dillion made a motion to approve recommending the Kell Marketing quote for \$202,459 to the General Services Committee to be sent in turn to City Council for approval to award the contract for the purchase and installation of flooring at the Winchester, Sutton Park, J. Ray Shute, Old Armory, and Dickerson Community Centers. Dr. Milner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: McGee, Dillion, Milner, and Thomasson

NAYS: None

Item No. 6 Legislative Agenda Discussion Mr. Hovanec stated that City staff is in the process of developing a legislative agenda for our House and Senate members, and staff is asking the Parks and Recreation Commission for items to present.

A general discussion was held regarding proposed Parks and Recreation priorities to address with our legislative delegation and assembly. Items discussed included funding for a skate park and a Parks and Recreation master plan.

Ms. Hollowell kept a record of these items and stated that she would include them in the master list of City requests to present to City Council and then to the legislators.

Item No. 7 2025 Event Schedule Mr. Hovanec reviewed the 2025 Parks and Recreation event schedule on the screen. He noted that there might be increased police presence and security measures at these events due to recent events in other cities such as New Orleans.

The board and staff discussed details about Music on Main, the Art Walk, and the Latin Festival.

Mr. Hovanec stated that staff is looking at software to help track attendance at our events and parks to convey information about who visits, where they originate, and where they go to help staff know how to serve our community and maximize our parks and facility usage. This software would benefit multiple City departments including Parks and Recreation, Downtown, Tourism, and Economic Development.

Ms. Dillion made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Thomasson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with the following votes:

AYES: McGee, Dillion, Milner, and Thomasson

NAYS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

DRAFT



STAFF REPORT

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: February 18, 2025
FROM: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
PREPARED BY: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Division Updates

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be presented updates of plans and programs in each of the four Parks and Recreation divisions.

REVIEW

Parks and Recreation divisions include Athletics/Special Events, Community Centers, Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center, and the Bazemore Center for Active Adults. Each of these divisions interfaces daily with the public and provides services and activities contributing to the quality of life of Monroe and Union County residents.

RECOMMENDATION

Presented for informational purposes; no action is needed at this time.

Attachment(s):



STAFF REPORT

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: February 18, 2025
FROM: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
PREPARED BY: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
SUBJECT: Recognition Discussion

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission will discuss recognition of community partners.

REVIEW

Many people have partnered with Parks and Recreation and contributed to the Monroe community’s commitment to wellness and connection. Staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission will discuss the process of recommending individuals and groups for recognition by City Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Presented for informational purposes; no action is needed at this time.

Attachment(s):



STAFF REPORT

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: February 18, 2025
FROM: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
PREPARED BY: Peter Hovanec, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director
SUBJECT: Old Business Updates

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be presented updates on Parks and Recreation projects and initiatives.

REVIEW

The Parks and Recreation Department has many exciting ongoing projects and initiatives underway in various stages, including a skate park, improvements at the Dickerson disc golf course, introducing kiosks at the community centers, installing new floors at the community centers, and implementing Flowcodes at Parks & Recreation facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

Presented for informational purposes; no action is needed at this time.

Attachment(s):