

**Minutes  
Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission  
City of Chattahoochee Hills  
June 8, 2021  
6:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order** – Determination of Quorum

*Diana Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Diana Wilson, Roland Alston, Clifford Blizard, Chip Denton, Chris Jones, Pat Lesko, and Kay Long. Also present was Public Works/Parks Director Darold Wendlandt.*

**Approval of Agenda**

*Blizard made a motion to approve the agenda. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Election of Officers**

*Denton nominated Wilson as Chair. Long seconded. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Wilson as Chair was unanimous.*

*Alston nominated Blizard as Vice Chair. Denton seconded. There were no other nominations. The vote to elect Blizard as Vice Chair was unanimous.*

**Approval of Minutes**

**1. Approval of May 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

*Jones made a motion to approve the May 11, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes. Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Presentation**

*There were no presentations.*

**Items for Consideration**

*There were no Items for Consideration.*

**Items for Discussion**

**1. Cochran Mill Park Update – Roland Alston**

*Alston reported that the last few weeks have been spent clearing storm damage. He also said there is a rogue trail from the parking lot to Upper Wooten Road that is causing wash outs, and he asked for ideas to keep people from using it. Commission members discussed placing natural barriers, signage, and fencing to block the trail. Alston asked if a split rail fence could be erected using leftover materials, and Wendlandt responded that it would be fine.*

*Wilson also suggested that a sign be installed at the trailhead arch indicating that the yellow trail is not the shortest trip to a waterfall.*

*Alston asked who is flipping the trails closed sign because it often is incorrect. Wendlandt answered that staff has not been flipping the sign and suggested that the lock be added back to the sign.*

*Denton asked if the city had discussed having volunteer park aids working at Cochran Mill Park on the weekends. City Manager Robbie Rokovitz said there is a Park Ranger/Ambassador position budgeted in the FY2022 budget.*

**2. Chattahoochee Riverkeeper Paddle Cleanup June 26 – Diana Wilson**

*Wilson said the city is partnering with Chattahoochee Riverkeepers on a paddle cleanup on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will put in at the Highway 166 boat ramp and take out at the Campbellton Park boat ramp. Cochran Mill Brewing will be providing an adult beverage to volunteers afterwards. Logistics for the dumpster and parking were discussed. Alston asked if a narrow foot bridge could be placed across the ditch at Campbellton Park. Wendlandt said he did not see a problem with that as long as it was placed where vehicles could not drive on it.*

**3. Hutcheson Ferry Park Plans – Clifford Blizard**

*Blizard said the city has a master plan for Hutcheson Ferry Park that includes all sorts of actionable items. He said it is a great time to start moving forward by identifying and making recommendations on priorities that would get people to start using the park. He suggested starting with the trail and a possible restroom facility. A potential funding source is the hotel motel fund.*

*Wilson said the Hutcheson Ferry Master Plan documents were available for Commission members to look at after the meeting.*

**Commission Member Comments / Suggestions**

*Long said she would like to see to the city hold a country fair with vendors, music, and activities at Hutcheson Ferry Park. It could be used as fundraising for the city. Commission members discussed the issues surrounding bathroom facilities, water, and clean up.*

*Blizard said he would like to eventually see a “Friends of the Park” group that could spearhead community events in the parks. Jones said he is on the board of the Friends of Sweetwater Park and their focus is to generate interest in the park. They host a “candlelight night” once a month, and it has been very popular.*

**Staff Reports**

**1. Parking Fee Update – Dana Wicher**

*Wicher reported the total parking fee revenue for the fiscal year to date was \$126,897.50 and parks activity fees are \$845 for primitive camping. There have been 411 resident and 623 non-resident parking decals distributed to date.*

**2. Darold Wendlandt**

*Wendlandt reported that there will be a photo shoot at Hutcheson Ferry Park on June 15<sup>th</sup>. He received a quote for the pavilion at Rico Park. The quote came in at \$29,000 due to the recent increase in cost of construction materials, so staff will*

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*need to do a sealed bid process. Alston asked if T-Ball is going to be held this year, and Wendlandt answered that he has not heard whether they will hold a fall T-Ball season.*

**Adjournment**

*Blizard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Long seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.**

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**Diana Wilson, Chair**

**Attest:**

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**Dana Wicher, City Clerk  
(Seal)**

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