



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

BUNTEN ROAD PARK

THE MAX BUILDING
3180 BUNTEN RD
DULUTH, GA 30096

October 11, 2023, AT 6:00PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

David Jones, Chair
Sharon Parris, Co-Chair
Alexis Server, Secretary
Annette McIntosh
Mark Carter

Judy Putnam
Curt Lindner
Ryan Marcinik
Mary Odum
Janice Wheeler

PRESENT: Sharon Parris, Alexis Server, Annette McIntosh, Mark Carter, Judy Putnam, Mary Odum,

ABSENT: Ryan Marcinik, Curt Linder, David Jones, Janice Wheeler

CITY REPRESENTATIVES: Kathy Marelle

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Annette McIntosh, seconded by Mary Odum, to approve the September 13, 2023, minutes as presented.

II. BOARD MEETING PROCEDURES

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 5 MINUTES

III. UPDATE ON ROGERS BRIDGE PHASE II - PROJECT UPDATES

A. ROGERS BRIDGE PHASE II CONSTRUCTION UPDATE (SPLOST)

Phase II construction of Rogers Bridge Park began June of 2023. The first parking lot has been completed and the second parking lot is under construction. The Trailhead facility is complete with interior finishing except for internet, access control and phones which are to be completed in November. Phase II construction of the park pavilion, walking trail and the additional parking lot is expected to be completed in May of 2024. Staffing and park operational procedures are being prepared.

B. W.P. JONES PARK REPAIRS

Due to the storm in September that caused massive flooding, the W.P. Jones Park playground and restrooms are closed and will remain closed until all repairs are completed. Due to heavy flooding and sewer contamination in the area, the repairs are extensive. The restroom facility was gutted, and new walls and plumbing will be installed. The playground surface will be excavated, and new surfacing materials will be installed. Currently, the department does not have an estimated date for completion of all repairs as insurance coordination is still pending. Staff will coordinate with the Public Relations Department to release updates on the status of park repairs.

C. BUNTEN TRAIL RENOVATIONS - (SPLOST)

Columbia Engineering has submitted conceptual plans for the trail and bridge tunnel projects. Staff will approve final plans and present them to the Board for approval. A meeting with Columbia Engineering will be scheduled to determine the scope and estimated cost of the project. The Board discussed whether to include the proposed new ADA requirements for the project. The Board indicated that the ADA information was valuable to have but not a necessary expenditure of funds as parts of the trail are already accessible for users with physical challenges.

D. W.P. JONES TENNIS / PICKLEBALL FACILITY - (SPLOST)

Pond Engineering has completed and submitted the plans for infrastructure improvements and bank stabilization. Columbia Engineering has completed the third-party review. Staff will approve final plans and present them to the Board for approval. The Board indicated that this is a priority for SPLOST funding as the infrastructure to park facilities takes precedence.

E. BUNTEN ROAD PARK PLAYGROUND REPAIRS

Pour in place and surface repairs to the playground entrance is scheduled for Thursday, October 12; weather and materials pending.

IV. MATTERS FROM THE BOARD

Mark Carter inquired if the department has received any pushback from the public regarding the transformation of the park's baseball fields. Kathy explained the trends of use from baseball to soccer for the senior baseball fields and indicated that a baseball/softball field would be available for the public use. The current use of ball fields 3 & 4 is utilized by travel teams as opposed to park recreational teams. Mark Carter reported that the Mason Elementary Lion Stomp fund raiser in September hosted at Bunten Road Park was a success. Alexis Server suggested hosting future board meetings at other park sites throughout the city.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mark Carter, seconded by Mary Odum to adjourn at 8:08PM

Approved this 8 day of November, 2023

Marou D. Paris
Chairman

Annette Mc Intosh
Secretary/Witness

Next meeting of the Park & Recreation Advisory Committee is Wednesday, November 8, 2023