

Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

__July 21, 2025_ – Regular Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM CVB Conference Room

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Jay Ford, President
Robert Brookover, Vice Pres.
Craig White, Secretary
J. Philip Burton, Treasurer
Jimmy Bledsoe
Tracy Evans
Rick Garcia
Cathy Maxwell
Frank Moore
Josh Rice
Dave Shaw

STAFF

PRESENT:

Tony Michalski, Director
Tina Mascaro, Sports Management Director

GUESTS:

I. Opening of the meeting and approval of minutes

The meeting was called to order at _6:00_p.m. by _Jay Ford_(President).

The motion was made by _Cathy Maxwell_ and seconded by _Tracy Evans_ for the **approval of the minutes** for _the May 19th meeting____. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

Note: Since there was not a June meeting, the minutes submitted to the board were just a summary of the board packet and not actual meeting minutes so there was no need for a motion to approve any items for June.

II. Financial Report for _May 2025__

The motion was made by _Cathy Maxwell_ and seconded by _Rick Garcia_ for the **financial report and invoices** for _May 2025____. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

Financial Report for _June 2025__

The motion was made by _Craig White _ and seconded by _Tracy Evans_ for the **financial report and invoices** for _June 2025____. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

Levy funds have increased slightly and Tony believes it has a lot to do with the new businesses coming into the Middletown Commons. Phil and Tony noted that the budget is withing 4% of expenditure vs revenue.

III. Committee Reports

- a. Program and Planning
- b. Finance
- c. Nominating
- d. Personnel

IV. Director's Report

- a. 2025-26 Fiscal Budget Approval –~\$350,000 for capital development but ~\$136,000 is for the loan to the County Commission for the MLR project. Last years budget had

a \$1.5 million difference because of the single grant of federal funds that was received and then dispersed for the Middletown Commons property. Maintenance equipment is increased slightly because we need new trucks.

The motion was made by Phil Burton and seconded by Rick Garcia for the **approval of the 2025-26 MCPARC Fiscal Budget** as submitted by Tony. Motion Carried X Motion Denied _____

- b. MLR project update – some drainage improvements have been completed behind the new buildings and concrete pavers installed to help with the mud. During the floods on June 15th there was a drain that malfunctioned and caused some flooding – the issue has been corrected. Field maintenance on the football field will begin in anticipation of football season beginning August 4th. There is a new water leak in the parking lot causing flooding in the new buildings but it is an issue with the City of Fairmont and they will be repairing it. Bob Brookover spoke up with concerns that we aren't utilizing the park as much as we should; it was noted that it is difficult to host weekend tournaments due to the fields being grass. Turf fields would eliminate that issue but are too costly at this point.
- c. Koons Run Park – MCPARC was approached by the current owners of the park about taking over ownership. The area was inspected and it is estimated that it would take ~\$10,000 to repair the existing building and the playground equipment is in good working order but would need some repair to meet commercial standards. We will have Jarrod DeVault (MCPARC attorney) reach out to the family to get some details. Discussion was held and it was determined that this falls into MCPARC's mission to create usable outdoor spaces for people in the community.

The motion was made by Bob Brookover and seconded by Rick Garcia for the **approval of having Jarrod DeVault follow up with the family and have MCPARC take over ownership of that park**. Motion Carried X Motion Denied _____

- d. Pool report – both pools opened May 24th and started off slow due to rainy weather conditions but have since picked up and been very busy. MCPARC holds ongoing lifeguard training at both pools. 12th Street will close for the season on August 10th and the Wave Pool will close August 17th and then reopen the weekends of Aug. 23/24 and 30/31/1. MCPARC received the devastating news that former pool CPO maintenance employee – Jason Skaflestad passed away unexpectedly. We would like to hang a plaque at the wave pool computer room in his honor.
- e. MCPARC Day Camp and Playground program began June 9th and participation at all 8 playgrounds and the day camp have increased. Day Camp has had over 100 kids for the first time ever, Mannington increased by over 20 kids daily and now has over 60. We are feeding almost 400 children through the summer feeding program at these sites. Monday morning staff meetings were held for all sites during the duration of the program. The Day Camp will take an end of year field trip to the Skyzone in PA. We are considering hosting a site at Mary Lou Retton park next year. Bob asked if we could have a site at the new city playground in Norwood and Tony indicated that he would look into it and contact the city with the idea.
- f. MCPARC swim lessons were held and both sessions were at near capacity. Lifeguards assisted Tony with the lessons.
- g. Kiwanis presentation – MCPARC gave a presentation to the Kiwanis on June 18th.
- h. Heston Property – Mr. Tom Heston has approached MCPARC about obtaining a right-of-way through our property located across the river from Prickett's Fort. The property was obtained when MCPARC purchased the Radcliffe Trestle and we have no plans for future development on this parcel. Mr. Heston would like to trade

access thru our property for a parcel of riverfront property along the West Fork Train near the Everson Trailhead. Jarrod DeVault is drafting an agreement and will present it to the board when finalized.

- i. Bunner's Ridge Property – the electric and water have been turned back on and the clean-up process has begun. We will hold a public input session to discuss development with the residents before moving forward. Bob Brookover asked if there was a possibility to bring back the Hard Rock Bunner Race.

V. Sports Management Director Report

a. Community Engagement

- i. MCPARC donated a family wave pool pass to the town of Rivesville for their Riverfront Festival Celebration.
- ii. MCPARC donated pool passes to HOPE Domestic Violence Shelter.
- iii. MCPARC's rugby instructor taught a rugby clinic to the clients at the DAC July 10th.
- iv. Received a thank you card from Literacy Volunteers of Marion County for our donation of pool passes for their summer reading program.

b. Programs

- i. The following fields are still in use by various teams – MLR, EM & Worthington.
- ii. Tennis lessons session 1 was held June 17 – July 3 with 20 participants.
- iii. Playground and Day Camp programs have had record numbers.
- iv. Wave Pool and 12th Street pool are open daily 12 – 6 and have been very busy. Lifeguard trainings have ben held bi-weekly.
- v. Swim lesson session 1 was held the week of June 23 with 24 participants.
- vi. The World's Largest Swim Lesson was held June 26 at the wave pool with 87 participants.
- vii. MCPARC bus trip to the Gateway Clipper Dinner and Fireworks was cancelled.
- viii. Swim lesson session 2 was held the week of July 7 with 22 participants.
- ix. Tennis lessons session 2 is July 8 – 24 and has 17 participants.
- x. MCPARC Community Band summer concert was held July 7 at EFHS. They have over 70 members.
- xi. Family trail day was held July 12th at the Prickett's Fort Trailhead.
- xii. MCPARC bus trip July 12 – a Murder Mystery Dinner Cruise was full with 35 participants.
- xiii. MCPARC Youth Rookie Rugby only had 3 kids sign up but coach Ray is still offering the program in conjunction with Dodridge County Parks & Rec as their numbers are low too.
- xiv. A meeting of MCPARC, MCSA, and the MC Commission was held. MCSA is thankful for all the MCPARC does for their program and for the use of the complex. The County Commission recommended that MCPARC assume responsibility for the electric and waster at he complex. MCPARC will have it transferred.

c. Upcoming events and programs

- i. National Night Out event will be held at East Marion park August 5th.
- ii. 12th Street pool will close August 10th and the wave pool will close for weekdays after Aug. 17th. Anticipated last day for the wave pool remains September 1st.

- iii. The Seth Burton Memorial Disc Golf Tournament will be held September 12 – 14.

VI. Maintenance Report

Our maintenance team needs additional seasonal staff; advertisements have been posted on Facebook. A list of specific projects/events was submitted for review. The team was kept busy with clean-up from the Fathers Day floods as well as numerous other projects. They installed the new dog park features that were donated to MCPARC from the City of Fairmont and repaired fencing there.

VII. New Business

- a. The MOU for West Fairmont Colts was distributed for review. No changes were made from the last years MOU so no motion was needed for approval.

VIII. President's Remarks

Jay wanted to thank everyone for coming to the meeting recognizing how busy everyone is in the summer.

Jay recognized Jason for his loyalty and dedication to MCPARC for the past 17 years and offered sincere condolences to his family and friends.

IX. Around the Horn

- a. **J. Bledsoe** - absent
- b. **R. Brookover** – recommended we not tear up the existing asphalt on the courts for the new pickleball site and just do an overly; has received many comments about the drainage of the pickleball courts at MLR and wondered if a roof over that court was possible.
- c. **P. Burton** Sept 12 – 14 is the Seth Burton Memorial Tournament and he wanted to thank MCPARC for once again assisting with the event and allowing camping at EM.
- d. **T. Evans** – no comment
- e. **J. Ford** – is there some kind of signage that can be put up to note how to take turns on the pickleball courts?
- f. **R. Garcia** – Stephanie Wilson from the Baxter area who was one of our playground counselors passed away and we'd like to send our condolences to her family; Is it in writing that there are no practices allowed at FTK field? People don't use playgrounds anymore but there is a need for fields.
- g. **C. Maxwell** – no comment
- h. **F. Moore** - absent
- i. **J. Rice** - absent
- j. **D. Shaw** - absent
- k. **C. White** – no comment

With no further business, the motion was made by __Craig White__ and seconded by __Bob Brookover__ for meeting adjournment at _7:04_ PM. The motion carried.

Minutes recorded by: Tina Mascaro, Sports Management Director

July 23, 2025