

Marion County Parks And Recreation Commission

__May 19, 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 - phone
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 _Phil Burton_ and seconded by _Dave Shaw_ for the **approval of the minutes** for _April 21, 2025__. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

II. Financial Report for __April 2025_____

What was the payment to Naternicola Masonry? – work to the replace the blacktop that Veritas didn't complete and the landscaping and drainage work to finish the MLR project.

We've received 100% of our levy – are we where we need to be financially at this point – yes, we just received a levy check for \$213,000 and we are expecting at least 2 more so we are slightly over where we normally are at this time.

The motion was made by _Craig White_ and seconded by _Rick Garcia__ for the **financial report and invoices** for _April 2025__. Motion Carried ___X___ Motion Denied _____

III. Committee Reports

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

IV. Director's Report

- a. MLR Project Update – The final payment to Veritas was sent. The drainage behind the new construction has been corrected and the area is beginning to dry out. New posts have been installed and the black top on the entry road has been repaired.

Tony brought pictures of all the fields to show how nice everything looks at that park now.

- b. Middletown Commons Project Update – A meeting will be set with MCPARC, the town of White Hall officials and the Biafore brothers to discuss the project. The homeowner’s association will cooperate and are excited about trails and a pathway possibly being put in place.
- c. Pool report – both pools have been full and circulating since May 6th and will be ready for opening day on May 24th. MCPARC sponsored a lifeguard certification class and had eight new guards certified and two recertifications. The slide inspection is complete, and the health department has been notified and they will schedule an inspection. We will be using a new food company this year in the concession stands. Bob Brookover noted that he still had concerns about the loss in revenue from the concession stand and stated that maybe we close the concession all together. The admission pool prices for this year will remain the same.
- d. Curtisville Lake 26th Annual MCPARC Family Fishing Day was held April 18th with over 250 people in attendance. The WV DNR brought their new stock truck and stocked the lake during the event. Both campgrounds are now open for the season.
- e. Guyses Run Fishing Park opened for the season on April 26th with a free fishing day. Over 50 people were in attendance. MCPARC co-sponsored a Kid’s fishing event on May 3rd.
- f. Rotary presentation – MCPARC will be the guest speakers at the Fairmont Rotary Club meeting on May 15th.

V. Sports Management Director Report

- a. Community Engagement
 - i. Marion County Teen Court held a clean-up day on the McTrail.
 - ii. The City of Fairmont donated an intermediate Dog Park Kit which included many new items for our FIDO park
 - iii. MCPARC donated Guyses run fishing passes and pool passes to Rivesville Elementary/Middle School for their student auction.
 - iv. The Fairmont Lions Club, the Midtown Leo Club, and family/friends held a clean-up day on the West Fork River Trail from Monongah to the Everson Trailhead on April 21st. They also cleaned the playground, soccer field, and the ballpark. All together they volunteered about 26 hours – 13 people on the project for Earth Day.
 - v. The state tourism department requested more of our Rails to Trails Nature Walk Trees brochure which highlights trees along our McTrail.
 - vi. MCPARC is working with a local group who are sponsoring a Run to Remember 5k on June 15th to benefit Alzheimer’s Association on our McTrail.
 - vii. The local Master’s Gardener group donated several plants they had left over from their annual plant sale to our community garden.
 - viii. MCPARC donated the use of Pavilion 1 on May 25th to the GeoWoodstock event. It is the largest gathering of Geochaching enthusiasts in North America and will be bringing over 5000 people into the area. The event kicks off in Marion County with a pancake breakfast and they anticipate serving over 800 people.
- b. Programs

- i. All fields are at max capacity for scheduling; maintenance is doing a great job keeping them all mowed.
 - ii. The Community Garden opened and we are working to try to host some seminars.
 - iii. Celebrate Trails Day was a fun event despite the rain and cold. The City of Fairmont sponsored events on the Winfield Trailhead and MCPARC held events on the Prickett's Fort Trailhead.
 - iv. Kids Day at Guyses Run was a huge success with over ~175 people in attendance. Two individuals from the Town of Whitehall attended and assisted with the cookout, and Burks Bait and Tackle came and distributed free bait for the kids and helped them as needed.
 - v. The MCPARC bus trip to Falling Water, Nemaocolin, and the Christmas Shoppe was a great time for everyone with several people leaving there very lucky.
 - vi. Installed new fencing for the small dog area at FIDO's dog park.
- c. Upcoming Events and Programs
- i. Wave Pool and 12th Street pool open May 24th.
 - ii. MCPARC's next bus trip is May 31st to Sight and Sound Theater to see Noah.
 - iii. National Trails Day family walk will be held June 7th on the West Fork Trail – Monongah Trailhead.
 - iv. Playground and Day Camp programs begin June 9th and run through July 18th.
 - v. MCPARC Youth Rookie Rugby begins June 12 and is open to kids ages 5 – 11.
 - vi. Tennis Lessons Session 1 for ages 7 – 14 begin June 17th.
 - vii. Swim Lessons Session 1 for all ages over 5 begin June 23rd.
 - viii. The World's Largest Swim Lesson event will once again be held at the Wave Pool on Jun 26th.

VI. Maintenance Report

The maintenance report for April was submitted with a list of completed items and projects worked on. Some of the items included: began cleaning out the Raptor Center; contracting Ben Smith to begin working on the Monongah rail trail slip; delivering dirt to the community garden and repairing the water tank; plugged the football field at EFHS; repaired water leak at MLR; mounted signs on the dugouts at MLR; installed new warning track material on the senior field at MLR; removed fallen trees from the trails and began cutting all trails; fish delivery to Guyses Run; removal of tires disposed of on trails; repairing equipment; mowing of all parks; cleaned and prepared the basement at the office for the move-in of the WVU Extension office; began landscaping projects; filled both pools; repaired the lift station at EM; installed new pump in the small bathroom at MLR and completed additional bathroom repairs; new partitions in the bathrooms at the Monongah trail head; reinstalled posts for the Untied Way in Monongah; general maintenance to the gazebo and Central Terrace building.

VII. New Business

- a. Onboarding and hiring for all playground and day camp employees has begun and we are working with the WV Child Nutrition program.
- b. Julie Sol from the DAC has invited MCPARC to the groundbreaking ceremony for their Wilfong Wellness Center. Tony will attend and present them with a check from MCPARC to be used for the project.

- c. Tony presented a proposal for next year's budget. Discussion was held. \$133,000 for the County loan repayment, leaving approximately \$220,000 for new capital projects. The community action line allows for some funding that can go towards the DAC project.

VIII. President's Remarks - none

IX. Around the Horn

- a. **J. Bledsoe** – no comment
- b. **R. Brookover** – the playground at Norwood is unbelievable – very nice! How much longer are we committed to Mannington pool project? – (we have 3 years left). Are we committed to the Pickleball project next year at East Marion – yes, this fall and we hope that our maintenance team can do some of the prep work this summer.
- c. **P. Burton** – no comment
- d. **T. Evans** – no comment
- e. **J. Ford** – no comment
- f. **R. Garcia** – no comment
- g. **C. Maxwell** – was at Pavilion 3 at East Maion and commented how great everything looked.
- h. **F. Moore** – had questions regarding the Mannington Pool – is it a city pool or MCPARC (city); it cost 1.2 million and MCPARC helped fund \$250,000. He noted that they still hadn't put up our sign.
- i. **J. Rice** - absent
- j. **D. Shaw** – no comment
- k. **C. White** – In the past a gentleman from the Oglebay Foundation used to come talk to MCPARC; does the long-term vision committed have any questions for this guy? Tony mentioned that we can ask this guy about reactivating the MCPARC Foundation.
- l. **Tina** – the state police donated 20 portable, disposable hand sanitizing stations that we can use at our playground/day camp sites and for any programs that we sponsor. We received a thank you note from Pleasant Valley for MCPARC's help with their community grant project.

With no further business, the motion was made by __Dave Shaw__ and seconded by __Craig White__ for meeting adjournment at _6:41__ PM. The motion carried.

Tina Mascaro

Sports Management Director

5/22/2025

Minutes Recorded By (Signature)	Title	Date
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Approved/ Disapproved	Initials	Date
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