



**Clayton County Parks and Recreation  
Advisory Board Meeting  
Minutes  
August 5, 2019**



**Board Member Attendance:**

Chairman, Dr. Elliott McGlory	Parks and Recreation / At Large	Present
Vice-Chair, Ianta Burks	BOC Chairman Appointee	Present
Carlos Frazier	Parks and Recreation / At Large	Absent
Carlos Benifield	District 3 Appointee	Present
Jarvis Jackson	District 1 Appointee	Present
Rickey Lovelace	District 2 Appointee	Present
Steve Lundquist	District 4 Appointee	Present

**Guest Attendance:**

Troy Hodges	Director / Parks and Recreation	Present
Marsha White	Executive Assistant/ Parks and Recreation	Present
Koboi Simpson	Deputy Administrator / Athletics	Present
Ricardo Newman	Deputy Administrator / Park Services	Absent
Stephanie Berens	Deputy Administrator / Greenspace	Present via Conference Call
Deborah Norsworthy	Deputy Administrator / Admin Svcs	Present via Conference Call
Ahmed Johnson	Deputy Administrator / Recreation Svcs	Present
Amy Keeney	Deputy Administrator / Marketing	Present via Conference Call
Troy Stubbs	Assistant Director / Parks and Recreation	Present via Conference Call

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Dr. Elliott McGlory called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Carl Rhodenizer Recreation Center in Rex, Georgia. Notice to the public was previously posted on the Clayton County Parks and Recreation website and the Clayton County Board of Commissioner Website.

**II. RECOGNIZE CITIZENS**

Four citizens were present at the meeting. Board Chairman, Dr. McGlory, welcomed citizens to the meeting. Board members, guests, and citizens were given the opportunity to introduce themselves.

**III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The April 29, 2019 Minutes were presented to the Board for review, discussion, and approval. Ianta Burks made a Motion to approve the April 29, 2019 Minutes. Jarvis Jackson Seconded the Motion. All were in favor. The Motion was approved. The approved Minutes will be provided to the Clayton County Board of Commissioners Clerk for public posting and transparency.

## IV. BUSINESS

### a. Athletic Camps

Mr. Carlos Benifield presented the topic “Athletic Camps” to the Board for continued discussion. Mr. Kobi Simpson, Clayton County Parks and Recreation Athletic Administrator, advised the Board of all opportunities offered for youth to participate in athletic camps in all sports related activities. The Board and Parks and Recreation staff further discussed the meaning and definition of camps, as well as details surrounding the current camps offered through Parks and Recreation Athletics Division. Mr. Carlos Benifield will schedule a meeting with Mr. Simpson outside of the Board meeting to discuss his recommendations for athletic camps. The discussion ended with Dr. McGlory reminding the Board of the proper chain of command when offering recommendations or needing clarification.

### b. Issuing Athletic Equipment

Mr. Benifield presented the discussion of issuance of football equipment within the Clayton County Parks and Recreation Athletic Division. Mr. Simpson explained the inventory process by which athletic equipment is ordered, maintained, and distributed to the individual parks. Issuance of equipment is also determined on when an individual park/team has completed the acclimatization process. Mr. Simpson explained Clayton County Parks and Recreation follows Georgia High School Association rules which requires youth to practice for five days prior to being issued equipment which adds 30lbs of weight during the heat of summer. Mr. Simpson also explained CCP&R follows the NOCSAE standard for certifying equipment used in contact sports.

### c. Coach Information

Mr. Benifield presented the discussion of disseminating coach’s contact information. Mr. Benifield explained that participants want to know the name of their assigned head coach when they register. Mr. Benifield suggest we provide participants with the coach’s contact information upon registration so that the participant can make the call to find out practice days and team information. Mr. Simpson explained the process by which participant names and contact information is provided to coaches and the standard by which coaches are required to contact the participants. Mr. Simpson agree to add coach names and park contact information on the website. Coaches are volunteers that have completed a certification and background check. Volunteer’s personal contact information will not be disclosed on the Clayton County Parks and Recreation website.

Mr. Benifield presented the discussion of participant numbers and recruiting participants that were playing Football at the Old National Hwy Park. Mr. Simpson explained that numbers for Football participation is down nationwide. CCP&R is currently 57 participants off from last year’s Football roster and we are continuing to fill those spots. Soccer participation has increased by 47 over last year’s roster. Constituents are being turned away in Soccer registration due to the lack of coaches. All sports activities saw an increase in numbers other than Football which is down nationwide and basketball which is capped to gymnasium space. Mr. Simpson also explained that marketing signs are posted throughout the county prior to athletic sports registration; however a specific location outside of the county is not targeted due to respect of boundaries for other organizations.

Mr. Benifield also requested an All Star Game for each sport. Mr. Simpson explained CCP&R Athletic Division hosts All Star Games for Basketball through GRPA and for Baseball. The game of soccer does not generally include an All Star Game. CCP&R will not host an All Star Game for football due to the importance of managing the amount of contact participants endure on the field.

d. Coaches Scholarships

Mr. Troy Hodges reported, starting with Basketball in 2020, head coaches will be offered a complimentary scholarship for one child into one athletic sport offered at Clayton County Parks and Recreation. The child, being their own biological, step, or adopted dependent. The head coach must be in good standing and must have served in a previous season for any athletic sport in Clayton County Parks and Recreation's Athletic Division and currently serving as a coach for the current season in which the child will be sponsored.

e. Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)

Dr. Elliott requested an update from Parks and Recreation regarding the number of AED's within the Parks and Recreation Department's parks and facilities. Mr. Ahmed Johnson reported Parks and Recreation will be adding seven additional AED to inventory. Mr. Hodges reported, currently, all four recreation center facilities house Automatic External Defibrillator devices. Mr. Hodges reported Parks and Recreation has three AED devices that will be serviced and placed in facilities. Parks and Recreation will also purchase an additional four AED devices. With the four already in recreation centers, three that will be serviced and assigned a location, and the purchase of four additional devices; all major facilities and all actively programmed parks will have an AED device.

## V. **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Parks and Recreation Director Troy Hodges provided an update on current projects and events related to Clayton County Parks and Recreation to the Board.

Updates to the Board included information on the recently approved budget for the Parks and Recreation Department approved by the Board of Commissioners, District IV recreation center construction at the International Park, Phase IV trail construction, Southwest Intergenerational Center construction on Flint River Rd., two scheduled meetings (Aug 13<sup>th</sup> and Sept 21<sup>st</sup>) for community engagement to discuss programming ideas for the Southwest Intergenerational Center, and the development and implementation of an upcoming employee recognition program for Clayton County Parks and Recreation employees.

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Jarvis Jackson recommended we continue to discuss safety issue at Basketball games. Dr. McGlory expressed concern for Clayton County P&R Coordinators when we ask them to intervene when situations arise that could be a safety concern. Dr. McGlory recommended we re-agenda the topic of safety for the next meeting.

Mr. Jarvis Jackson also recommended Parks and Recreation give more attention to the mounds on the fields. Mr. Jackson complimented the grounds; however, feels the mounds need more attention. Mr. Hodges advised that P&R did purchase a field turf lip remover which should help.

Mr. Jarvis Jackson requested an update on Ms. Keeney receiving training to update the Parks and Recreation website. Ms. Keeney reported that she had received the training she needed.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Clayton County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.