

# Town of Altavista Recreation Committee

## **Committee Members**

Sarah Mattox Roach, Chair  
Victoria Mattox, Vice Chair  
Tim George, Town Council  
Rev. Eduardo Soto  
Dr. Deidre Douglas

## **Ex-Officio Members**

Steve Jester, Executive Director YMCA  
Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 5:30 pm**

I. Call to Order

II. Public Input

*(Citizens wishing to address the Committee should provide their name/address. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes with a total of 15 minutes allotted for this purpose. Please note that the Public Input period is NOT a question-and-answer session between the public and the Committee.)*

III. Minutes –approval of minutes from the May 18, 2021 meeting

IV. Old Business

a. Request from YMCA for additional ballfield

V. Matters from Staff

VI. Matters from Committee Members

a. Restroom – Councilman Tim George

b. Paving of road and parking area Eagle Trail – Councilman Tim George

VII. Adjournment

**Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 5:30 pm**

The Altavista Recreation Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting May 18, 2021 at 5:30PM in the Council Chambers at Town Hall located at 510 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Altavista, Virginia.

Members Present: Sarah Mattox Roach, Chair  
Victoria Mattox, Vice Chair  
Councilman Tim George  
Rev. Ed Soto  
Dr. Deidre Douglas

Members Absent: Steve Jester, ex officio

Also Present: David Garrett, Public Works Director  
Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager  
George Sandridge, Main Street Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Sarah Mattox Roach called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

There was none.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***Rev. Ed Soto made a motion, seconded by Councilman Tim George to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2021 and April 20, 2021 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.***

**OLD BUSINESS**

Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens updated members related to the seesaw at Bedford Park. Previously there had been report of accidents on the equipment and replacement requested. Ms. Owens explained that when researching potential anti-slip materials, it was discovered that the seesaw in question did not have the appropriate footrests which were updated in 2017 by the manufacturer. The seesaw will be retrofit with the footrests and grip tape to prevent slippage on this equipment. The parts for the retrofit will be delivered in the last week of May and Public Works will install.

David Garrett, Public Works Director added that the missing fence section at Bedford Park had been replaced as well as the handicapped parking signage.

**PROJECT UPDATES**

Ms. Owens and Mr. Garrett provided updates related to three projects currently ongoing on Eagle Trail and the Green Hill Connector Trail.

a. Eagle Trail Closure – this is for water line connection infrastructure from McMinnis Spring. The line is parallel to parts of Eagle Trail and construction is occurring Monday – Thursday with the trails opening up for use Friday – Sunday to allow for weekend enjoyment.

b. Tree cutting/removal – at the same time, some trees are being removed from the area where Town Council determined the pedestrian bridge will be installed on the passive trail. There is a plan to have a tree service remove additional trees on Eagle and Green Hill Connector trails that may be hazards. These trees are mostly ash trees with no value.

Councilman Tim George noted that the Town Council had voted to postpone the paving of the passive trail due to the need for the tree removal and the cost of paving. However, millings that are left following the paving done over the summer can be utilized for this trail.

On a related note, Mr. Garrett explained that currently, the abutments for the bridge are being designed and that once all is approved, construction can begin and the pedestrian bridge installed in the summer.

c. Trail improvements – with the closure of the trail, it has provided an opportunity to place some drainage pipe along Green Hill Connector trail as well as being able to have some additional surface material placed.

As noted at the April meeting, Ms. Owens and Mr. Garrett are working on signage and identifying markers (directional and mile) for all trails.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

With that segue, Ms. Owens provided a graphic of all of the existing trails with the proposed areas for signage for the group to review. Discussion was held and it was requested that one additional sign be added at the point where Eagle Trail and the passive trail meet.

Ms. Owens explained that since there is planned trail signage, it is necessary to consider naming of the passive trail. Due to the contributions from the Jenks fund, it was suggested that something honoring the Jenks name be considered. Discussion was held and the names Jenks River Trail, Jenks River Loop, Jenks Trail and Jenks Riverside Trail were considered. Ms. Owens stressed that this recommendation would go to Town Council and that a formal motion would need to be made.

***Councilman Tim George made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Victoria Mattox to recommend to Town Council the name of Jenks River Trail. The motion carried unanimously.***

Rev. Ed Soto recommended that another sign with map be added at the bicycle turnaround indicating the location of (proposed) Jenks River Trail and back toward English Park.

Ms. Owens will complete the necessary coversheet to address this item at the Town Council's upcoming work session. Ms. Owens thanked members for their prompt resolution on this matter.

#### **MATTERS FROM STAFF**

Ms. Owens announced the opening of the Splash Pad on May 22 and 23, with seven-day a week usage through Labor Day beginning May 29.

Ms. Owens reminded members that the Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch was open for use and that once the final installations of gate, guardrail and permanent railings are complete, a formal ribbon cutting would be held and members of the Recreation Committee invited to attend.

Ms. Owens presented information on the current year capital improvement plan for all departments so that the committee could see the entirety of the projects undertaken by the Town in FY 2021 including projects that were not part of the CIP but had been recommended or requested by Town Council.

### **MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chair Sarah Mattox Roach noted that she was approached by a citizen about staff in the park in the gator (small service vehicle) driving in excess of the 10-mph speed limit. Mr. Garrett indicated that he would address the issue.

Councilman Tim George asked if the parking area at the boat ramp would be paved. Ms. Owens reminded the group that Town Council had taken the improvements to the boat ramp area were not included in the CIP for FY 2022; however, there may be some funds available in the paving line item that could be used for such a paving project. This will be revisited as the paving work in town progresses this summer.

Councilman Tim George commented that there was interest in having an RV park. He indicated that he had spoken with an individual who had noted that some spaces were being purchased for a premium price. Ms. Owens reminded the Committee that a feasibility study was included in the CIP for FY 2022 to determine if this would be a good option for Altavista.

Councilman Tim George asked if the parking area at the Booker Building could be used for those visiting the splash pad/park with a sidewalk to access the area. The fencing around the basketball courts has been removed and he wondered if the same could be done at the parking area. Ms. Owens will discuss with the Town Manager and see if there is a reason that the fencing remains in place. However, individuals can park at the Booker Building any time there is not an event being held.

Councilman Tim George explained that there were several sandy spots on the riverbank that would be good access points. He asked if there was a plan to do anything with them. Ms. Owens explained that as part of the shoreline restoration, and the \$100,000 included in the CIP by Town Council, the area near the picnic area would be a natural access point and would be included as part of the restoration and stabilization plan.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

The Altavista Recreation Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 20th, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, located at 510 7th Street, Altavista, Virginia.

Members Present: Victoria Mattox, Vice Chair  
Councilman Tim George

Members Absent: Sarah Mattox Roach, Chair  
Reverend Ed Soto  
Dr. Deidre Douglas

Also Present: Steve Jester, Ex Officio  
David Garrett, Public Works Director  
Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager  
George Sandridge, Main Street Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chair Victoria Mattox called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Without a quorum of committee members, the meeting was conducted for informational purposes only.

Ms. Owens introduced Mrs. Crystal Hailey and stated, as of July 1st, she was a full-time employee with the Town of Altavista and would be taking the minutes for all town public meetings moving forward.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Mr. Tony Wade, 393 Penuel Lane, Altavista, addressed the Rec. Committee as an advocate for new baseball/softball fields in English Park. He stated he has lived in Altavista his entire life and been a member of the Altavista YMCA since he was six years old.

Mr. Wade stated, as a local umpire and little league baseball coach, he has seen the area's baseball and softball needs change over the past ten years or so. He stated the fields located at the YMCA were sufficient enough for t-ball and little league ball, but were not large enough for the older youth games, such as Dixie Youth Softball Tournaments.

Mr. Wade referenced the ballfields located in nearby Brookneal, Va., which were larger than the YMCA fields, other than the Shreve Park ball field adjacent to the YMCA fields. He stated, by hosting Dixie Youth Softball Tournaments, the Town of Brookneal was able to bring \$10,000-\$12,000 in revenue to their town.

Mr. Wade referenced the FY2022 Parks & Rec. CIP item to evaluate adding new ball fields to the back area of English Park. He encouraged the Rec. Committee to ask the Town of Altavista to move forward with the item. He stated area youth are desperately in need of additional/ larger places to practice and play; and Altavista could utilize the fields to host tournaments as a revenue resource, like Brookneal does.

Mr. Wade stated there were multiple businesses in the area that are run by parents or coaches of ball players that he felt would be glad to donate funds or help in other ways with the proposed project of adding new ball fields to English Park.

Ms. Owens confirmed this item was scheduled to be discussed at Town Council's August Work Session. Councilman George encouraged Mr. Wade to also attend the August Work Session and share his concerns and ideas with Council, to which Mr. Wade stated he would be happy to do so.

Mr. Garrett confirmed the fields in the back area of English Park were large enough to achieve the desired ball fields as requested. He stated, however, there would need to be additional work done to the fields to bring them up to par for such an addition.

Ms. Owens reminded the Recreation Committee the recent adoption of the FY2022 Budget held \$25,000 for this Parks & Rec. CIP item, for such things as grading, reseeding, and other necessary work items.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for May 18th, 2021**

Without a quorum of committee members present, this action was postponed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **FY2022 CIP/Budget for Parks and Recreation**

Ms. Owens informed the Recreation Committee their proposed FY2022 Budget and CIP items were approved and adopted by the town on June 8th, 2021, in the amount of \$359,000, with the following items:

- Walking/Biking Trail Connection
- Improvements to Picnic Area- near river
- Circulation and Parking Improvements
- New Fields – Planning Phase
- English Park Restroom Addition (if state approved)

#### **PROJECT UPDATES**

a. **Jenks River Trail - Pedestrian Bridge Installation**

Ms. Owens informed the Rec. Committee that the new bridge had successfully been placed. She thanked Mr. Garrett and the Public Works Department for the work they did around the bridge: installing the concrete abutments, adding rock along both sides of the bank, and grading the trail level in order to achieve a smooth transition from the trail onto the bridge. Ms. Owens showed photos of the new pedestrian bridge as a visual reference for the Rec. Committee.

Mr. Garrett thanked Councilman George and Councilman Emerson for their efforts in preserving the mahogany handrails on the new pedestrian bridge, by applying teak oil to the rails.

b. **Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch**

Ms. Owens shared new photos of Dalton's Landing, showing the new guide rail recently installed to the boat launch. She informed the Rec. Committee that Sharon Williams, Altavista Community Development Director, worked with Campbell County and was able to acquire a 911 address for the Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch site; 5552 Bedford Highway, Lynch Station, 24571.

Ms. Owens also showed photos of the permanent sign structure located at Dalton's Landing. She stated the sign highlights items such as hours of operation, area wildlife, and a map of the Staunton River as it pertains to the area and Dalton's Landing access point.

Ms. Owens stated the only item remaining to be completed at Dalton's Landing was installing solar lighting. She stated the item was anticipated to be complete by mid-August.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no "New Business" items on the agenda for this date.

#### **MATTERS FROM STAFF**

There were no additional matters for discussion by Town Staff.

#### **MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Councilman George referenced the River Overlook on Eagle Train in English Park. He stated the suggestion had been brought before Council to consider staining the concrete of the overlook, but after some discussion, Council decided against the idea, due to the long-term maintenance of staining or painting the concrete.

Mr. George also suggested the town add landscaping around the overlook, in order for the site to blend more with its surroundings. He stated Council was in favor of investigating this idea further.

- Vice Chair Victoria Mattox referenced the "old amphitheater" in Shreve Park. She stated she was recently asked by a citizen about the possibility of cleaning it up and renovating the area so that it could be used.

Councilman George stated, when the Chamber was evaluating local options to hold outdoor movies, he looked at the old amphitheater, but he felt it needed a lot of work to be considered safe to use.

Mr. Garrett stated there was extensive work that would need to be done to make the amphitheater safe to use again, such as cutting tree limbs and replacing the deteriorating railroad ties.

Ms. Owens suggested bringing the idea to the Recreation Committee, and accordingly to Town Council, during the next fiscal year's proposed CIP discussion process.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

TOWN OF ALTAVISTA 08042021 REP  
**Patterson Brothers Paving, Inc.**  
**1011 Monroe Street**  
**Bedford, Virginia 24523**  
**(540) 586-1497**  
**www.pattersonbrotherspaving.com**  
**pattersonbrotherspaving@gmail.com**

August 4, 2021

Town of Altavista  
510 7<sup>th</sup> St.  
Altavista, VA 24517

We, Patterson Brothers Paving, Inc., propose to furnish all the labor, materials and equipment necessary to complete the following:

**PROJECT LOCATION: English Park**

**PROJECT: New Road and Parking Area**  
**Road 1380 Ft x 20 Ft**  
**Parking Area 45 Ft x 60 Ft**  
**3,400 Square Yards**

**SCOPE OF WORK:**

- A.** Excavate 8 to 10 Inches depth with Milling Machine as needed  
**NOTE:** All excavation material to be disposed of on English Park designated dump site
- B.** Cut final subgrade
- C.** Apply 8 Inches 21-A Stone compacted depth  
**NOTE:** Stone width to be 22 feet wide for purpose of creating a 1 Ft shoulder on each side upon completion of paving
- D.** Apply final grading and compaction
- E.** Apply 3 Inches compacted depth IM19.0A Plant Mix (Intermediate Type)
- F.** Dress shoulders as needed

**ESTIMATE \$139,500.00**

All of the above work to be completed in a substantial and workmanlike manner.



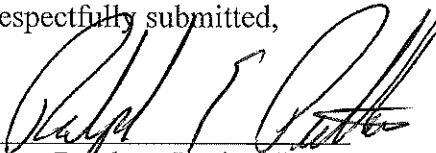
**\*\*NOTE:** Quote based upon current petroleum prices and may be adjusted at time of placement if prices change on materials or delivery charges from our suppliers.

Terms for payment to be as follows: **NET 30 DAYS FOR COMPLETED WORK.**

Any alteration or deviation from the above specifications involving extra cost of material, labor or equipment will only be executed upon written orders for same and will become an extra charge over the sum mentioned in this contract. All agreements to be made in writing.

The contractor agrees to carry the necessary insurance to protect his operations.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patterson Brothers Paving, Inc.

**ACCEPTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_, **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Proposal subject to acceptance within 30 days.

REP:cp



Legend

**Eagle Trail Road Extention**  
Proposed Extention of Eagle Trail  
2,993 Feet  
0.57 Miles



400 ft