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**City of Salisbury, Maryland
Parks & Recreation Committee
January 26, 2023**

Minutes

<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
David Plotts, Chairperson	Harry Wanner, Parks Manager
Mike Piorunski, Vice Chairperson	Lou DeGeorge, Parks Supervisor
David Herrick, Secretary	April Jackson, City Council Liaison
Mike Perry, Committee Member	Dominique Sessa, Committee Member
Errick Wilson, Committee Member	
Mary Grace Kiley, Committee Member	

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8 **Call to Order:** David Plotts called the meeting to order at 6:10PM at Community Foundation of the
9 Eastern Shore, 1324 Belmont Ave, Suite 401, Salisbury, MD 21801.

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11 **Minutes:** Mr. Herrick distributed copies of the minutes from the December 8, 2022 meeting. A
12 motion was made by Mike Perry to accept the minutes as read. Said motion was seconded by Mike
13 Piorunski and carried to approve.

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15 **Parks Review:** No review due to absence of Park personnel.

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17 **Other Business:** New member Errick Wilson was welcomed leaving the committee with two seats
18 still vacant. David Plotts announced that beginning in March committee meetings will be at city
19 parks. Mike Piorunski described the cleanup at Naylor Mill Park on MLK day by volunteers from
20 IMBA and others as being successful with an inordinate number of discarded tires collected. Mike
21 Perry added that a bike/walk route is proposed by BPAC that will connect Naylor Mill Park along
22 Scenic Mill Dr. to Bean Street and eventually through Salisbury to Fruitland using Rails to Trails
23 segments. Mary Grace Kiley bemoaned the fact that though the city Park is well used and sometimes
24 even crowded, very few people volunteer for cleanup and that a solution might be using convict labor
25 from Eastern Correctional Institution. Mud. Mud is the word to describe the walking trail on the
26 north side of the Wicomico River across from the zoo. City vehicle traffic is creating deep, water
27 filled ruts directly on the trail used by bikers, walkers, and disc golf players. Committee members
28 thought that those sections needed more than just grading or filling but without park personnel at the
29 meeting it was impossible to ascertain what solution might be possible. Ms. Kiley thought that
30 maintenance and improvement of the existing city park system is not high on the priority list for
31 expenditures and that proposed new parks, such as North Prong, will only increase the need to
32 allocate sufficient money from the city budget for manpower and material targeting the park system
33 in general. Errick Wilson has observed that there are not enough benches in City Park available for
34 elderly and the ones there now are not situated in places useful for people who need to rest. Mr.
35 Piorunski wanted to use the National Recreation and Park Association standards to evaluate our
36 parks – what we have and what we need. Finally, all committee members agreed that Jack Heath, the
37 interim Mayor, should be made aware of our concerns and commit to keep our parks in good order.

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39 **Adjournment:** Since there was no more immediate business for the committee to discuss, a motion
40 to adjourn was made by Errick Wilson, seconded by Mary Grace Kiley and committee voted to
41 adjourn at 7:15PM.

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43 David Herrick
44 Secretary