

Farragut Parks and Athletics
Council Minutes Farragut
Community Center
Assembly Hall Tuesday,
October 17, 2023

Present: Joe LaCroix, Anabel Zablah (Youth Representative)m, Dian Hall, Brian Walker, Jeff Ullian, Randy Armstrong, Mark Gellar, Debbie Pinchok, Alderman Drew Burnette

Staff: Ron Oestrich, Parks Director; Lauren Cox, Parks Manager

1. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Jeff Ullian at 6:03 PM.
Joe LaCroix moved to move item #6 on the agenda up to #3, the McFee Park Pickleball Discussion.
Dian Hall seconded and it was approved.
2. Mark Gellar moved to accept the minutes of the August meeting. It was seconded by Randy Armstong
And approved.
3. There were guests from Brass Lantern and Pryse Farms that attended to discuss issues regarding the pickleball courts and noise from them based on the noise the ball makes when it is struck, loud people playing pickleball and the close proximity of some of the homes. **Lauren, I could add some of the statistics they provided here if you want but I do not have all of their names.** Ron Oestrich suggested multiple ideas for reducing the sound including having alternate days for pickleball, limited hours, sound reduction screening, adding pickleball to MBLP, and reducing court hours. He stated that all of these ideas would take time, and some of them a great amount of budget money to implement but Parks and Athletics would investigate them. The discussion continued with the visitors saying that Brass Lantern was begun in 2018. They stated that they have original drawings of McFee Park and that the tennis courts were not originally in the location that they were actually built, and that there weren't any pickleball lines on them. They were also concerned that Knox County has an anti-noise ordinance and Farragut does not. Different types of barrier trees were suggested with differing sizes. This topic will be discussed again at our next meeting.
3. (on original agenda) The Excessive Trash Fee that was discussed at the August meeting was presented to BOMA and they approved our recommendations.
4. The TOF received a grant for (?????). The design plan is being developed for the ADA work at MBLP and the grant has been awarded. Replacing synthetic turf field and constructing ADA and a players bench on 2 at MBLP are included in the grant. An RFQ for bids will be placed before the end of the year. We received grant funding for the dog park and Urban Engineering has a design in progress. The dog park must be completed by 2025 as some donations stipulate that time frame.
5. There was lengthy discussion of our FY24 Committee Goals. Lauren had requested that each of us submit goals for discussion. Some Committee Goals are required by our Charter and some we add based on new amenities, interests or ideas. **See attached list.** Jeff Ullian moved to accept our Goals and Drew seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
6. Brian Walker moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Randy Armstrong. Jeff adjourned the meeting at 7:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Pinchok, Secretary

