

City of Bessemer Parks and Recreation Committee

2018 Annual Report

The City of Bessemer's Parks and Recreation Commission is comprised of five members who meet monthly on the 1st Thursday at 2:15 in the DDA Room at City Hall at 411 S Sophie. A typical meeting consists of review of the previous meetings minutes, public hearings, any new or old business, any communications, and reports from staff regarding development or any programs the City is involved, and finally a call to the public, and member's comments.

Planning Commission members include: Ron Zaleski (chair), Cheryl Olsen (vice-chair), Allen Archie (council representative), Marlene Zaleski, and Kathy Billie.

The commission spent a significant part of the working on their Parks and Recreation Plan and determining the future direction of the commission.

Each member received training on the roles and responsibilities of Parks and Recreation Commission members including the open meetings act.

Meeting dates and summaries

January 5th, 2018

This was an organizational meeting to determine chair, vice chair, and secretary and started working on the Plan. A discussion on the plans and goals for the commission.

March 1st, 2018

Conducted a training including open meeting act. Brainstormed ideas for committee. Supported pond project. Discussed CDBG application for Bluff Valley.

April 5th, 2018

Discussed options for fundraising. Discussed dogs in park. Discussed trail in Jungles.

May 3rd, 2018

Worked on Book Walk. Looked at little libraries. Worked on Recreation Plan. Discussed dogs in park.

June 21st, 2018

Walked through Bluff Valley Park and determined priorities.

July 5th, 2018

Worked on Parks and Recreation Plan. Discussed trail by Jungles. Discussed dogs in park. Discussed Kelden's route up Bluff. Discussed Little Library.

August 2nd, 2018

Decided not to allow trail spur in Jungles after receiving a petition from residents. Gave staff permission to apply for GRHF grant for bicycle repair station. Reviewed work done at park by high school students.

September 6th, 2018

Passed a resolution recommending adoption of Parks and Rec Plan. Discussed dogs in park. Discussed a bocce ball court and an ADA section of the park.

October 4th, 2018

Discussed Bocce ball court and dogs in park.

November 11th, 2018

Discussed ADA section of park. Received grant for bicycle repair station. Listened to a presentation from Kelden Witt about the Bluff Trail.