## CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



## **PROCLAMATION**

## PARKS and RECREATION MONTH 2022

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including the City of Charlottesville; and

**WHEREAS** our parks and recreation experiences are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the healthy lifestyle for all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of community and region; and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, families and retirees; and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation is a leading provider of healthy meals, nutrition services and education: and

**WHEREAS** parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide new learning opportunities and memorable experiences for children and adults by connecting with nature and the outdoors; and

**WHEREAS** the U. S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Charlottesville recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources, offering over 300 programs such as swim lessons, dance, gymnastics, day camps, nature programs and athletics leagues, with over 5,000 registered participants for the summer of 2022; and

**WHEREAS** special events in July include Sunday Sundowns on July 17<sup>th</sup> at Washington Park Shelter and Pool from 4-7 p.m. with free swim, free meals (while they last) and music for the whole family, and Sounds of Summer on July 30 at Tonsler Park featuring The Original Moonlighters Band and a free meal off the grill from 6-8 p.m.;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Council of the City of Charlottesville that July is recognized as Parks and Recreation Month in the City of Charlottesville, and residents and visitors are encouraged to participate in the range of activities that help to make Charlottesville a vibrant community.

Signed and sealed this 18th of July 2022.

J. Lloyd Snook, III, Mayor