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Ebony Bagley re-elected chairperson of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission

J. David VanderVeen, Andrea LaFontaine also re-elected to officer positions

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI – Jan. 9, 2025 – The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission (OCPRC) elected officers at its Jan. 8 regular meeting.

The OCPRC unanimously re-elected **Ebony Bagley** to serve as its chair. She has served on the OCPRC since 2019 and before her election to chair in 2024, served on the executive committee as secretary. Under her leadership, Oakland County Parks has made historic investments in its facilities, partnerships with local communities and new recreational initiatives.

J. David VanderVeen, retired Director of Oakland County Central Services, was re-elected as Vice Chairman. VanderVeen, of Independence Township, serves as Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter's representative on the commission. He has been a member of OCPRC since 1998.

Andrea LaFontaine, who has served on the OCPRC since 2018, was elected as secretary. A Birmingham resident, LaFontaine is the executive director of the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance and a former state representative.

Yolanda Smith Charles, an Oakland County Commissioner from Southfield, will serve as the Executive Committee Member. She joined OCPRC in 2021.

All will serve until Dec. 31, 2025.

The Parks Commission also includes:

- **Lola Banks** of Oak Park, an OCPRC member since 2024
- **Ann Erickson Gault**, Oakland County Commissioner, of Troy, an OCPRC member since 2024
- **Christine Long**, Oakland County Commissioner, of Wolverine Lake, who has served on OCPRC since 2009
- **Jim Nash**, Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner, of Farmington Hills, who has served on the commission by virtue of his position since 2013

- **Nancy Quarles**, a Road Commissioner for Oakland County, of Southfield, who has served on the commission by virtue of her position since 2019
- **Shanell Weatherspoon** of Pontiac, an OCPRC member since 2024

The OCPRC was established in 1966 under Public Act 261 of 1965. The 10-member Commission is made up of six elected officials and four members of the public: Oakland County Executive or designee; Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner or designee; one member of the Road Commission for Oakland County; three members of the Oakland County BOC; and four members of the public appointed by the BOC.

The OCPRC is responsible for planning, developing and operating parks and recreation facilities; making rules and regulations for the parks system; establishing a fee structure; and approving budget expenditures. The Commission is also responsible for recommending acquisition of new parkland, acceptance of grant funding and entrance into use agreements, all of which require BOC approval.

The OCPRC generally meets the first Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. at the Parks Administrative Offices, 2800 Watkins Lake Road in Waterford. Meeting agendas can be found online at [OaklandCountyParks.com](https://oaklandcountyparks.com).

For more information about Oakland County Parks, visit [OaklandCountyParks.com](https://oaklandcountyparks.com). Join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).