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CONTACT: Jessica Walker, Jessica.Walker@FairhopeAL.gov or 251-233-0459

FAIRHOPE NAMES NEW PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Fairhope Mayor Karin Wilson has announced the promotion of Pat White to the Director of Fairhope Parks and Recreation Department.

“We are proud to promote one of our own to this important department to continue the incredible work of retiring director Tom Kuhl,” said Wilson. “I am confident Pat is the right person to help us make great strides with Parks and Recreation as we seek to better serve our residents.”

White has spent a total of 7.5 years with the City. After a five-year stint in the early 1990s, he rejoined the Parks and Recreation Department as a crew leader, supervising department staff and making improvements thanks to his extensive agronomy experience.

“I want every one of our facilities to be known as the best and I want anyone that enjoys any type of recreation, golf, rec center, pool, to leave our facilities and know we are providing the very best for our community and those who visit our community,” said White. “I came back to the City of Fairhope because it’s my community and I have a passion for it. It’s where I want to be.”

White’s background includes 10 seasons in minor league baseball with the Birmingham Barons and the Mobile Bay Bears. He has also served as Parks Director for the City of Daphne, a turf agronomy instructor at Coastal Alabama Community College and an eight-year member of the Alabama Turf Grass Association where he has served as a director as well as president.

Retiring Parks & Recreation Department Director Tom Kuhl said White has been behind the move to more organic herbicides on all city fields, taking the department to 92% organic with a 100% goal.

“I’m concerned about not only the health of the people in our community but also about our water stream,” said White. “Everything that we apply sports field wise, ultimately ends up in our watershed. I just like to do my part.”

Kuhl is excited about the next chapter for White.

“He’s helped us significantly in the sports fields and the golf course,” Kuhl said. “There’s no better person for the job than Pat.”

White, who has been a resident of Fairhope since the age of 1, has been married for 24 years to Ashley. They have a son, Solon, and a daughter, McKinley.

He will assume his new duties on October 1st.

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