

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2020

Those present at the meeting were:

PRAB MEMBERS: Mark Cascia, Vicki Paulas, Laurie Dalziel, Jim Moran, Leigh Dillon, Phil Starkey and Paul Lombardo.

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF: Steve Chandlee, Mike Watson, Nancy Scozzari, Robbie Blackiston, Joan Brooks and Beth Miles.

Welcome to Leigh Dillon.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Laurie Dalziel motioned to approve and Phil Starkey seconded. Motion passed.

It was suggested that the Public Comments be moved to the top of the Agenda for convenience.

RECREATION UPDATE:

- ❖ Basketball is winding down 2-3 weeks remaining
- ❖ Pickleball and after school bowling is going well – 35 children from the KI, central and north county areas.
- ❖ Summer programs will be on the website by mid-February
- ❖ 4th of July celebrations will be held on July 2nd.
- ❖ Mary Margaret – Month of the Woman – 5K Run at Whitemarsh in May
- ❖ Egg Hunt – North County March 21st and at Old Love Point Park March 22nd
- ❖ Taste of the Matapeake on May 16th
- ❖ Currently hiring summer workers – Must be 16+ and have completed 10th grade
- ❖ Interviews are being held for the Recreation Specialist position to replace Bri Fregard

PARKS UPDATE:

- ❖ Conducting winter maintenance
- ❖ We have advertised to replace workers that we have lost – 2 out medical, 2 out administrative and 2 out vacancies – Closed last Wednesday, interviewing in 2 weeks
- ❖ Cleaning Schools – Spring Sports practices start February 29th.
- ❖ Reviewing Turf Fields – slow fall – spring shows promise – word of mouth is spreading news
- ❖ Schools – Monday thru Friday significant time spent moving goals.
- ❖ Old Love Point Park –9 projects to address drainage issues
- ❖ Mowing bid for Grasonville Area has been held to replace current contractor
- ❖ Concession Stand bids for Old Love Point and Rt. 18 are completed. We will re-bid Church Hill
- ❖ Purchased 72” zero-turn for grass cutting and it is equipped with a winter plow for snow removal.
- ❖ Upcoming Projects – KIST re-paving, Ewing Pond Park, and Golf Course cart path re-paving
- ❖ Refurbishing Batts Neck Hockey Rink in-house
- ❖ Edible Garden at White Marsh – Partnering with the MD Food Bank for use of excess harvest.
- ❖ Conservationist Specialist being hired to assist with spraying
- ❖ Administrative Assistant III position has been advertised.

NANCY REPORT -

- ❖ County Ordinance has been approved by Patrick Thompson. County Commissioners review tomorrow
- ❖ Land swap at Terrapin has been approved by Public Works
- ❖ April – new POS monies become available. Submitted projects need to be “shovel ready”.

JAMES WOOD REPORT -

- ❖ Update on Dredging Projects for Corsica River, Southeast Creek, and Price Creek
- ❖ Landing Permits have been distributed to vendors and rangers are beginning to write citations
- ❖ Nancy is coordinating site design for Visitor Center bulkhead.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Year-End Report to County Commissioners needs to be completed.
- ❖ Parking issues at the Cross County Connector Trail – This trail is popular and will be more so in spring and summer. There are 7 spaces available at left of Long Point Park, 2 spaces to the right of Long Point Park; Royal Farms has offered the backside of their parking lot for parking, and under the Kent Narrows Bridge is also available.
- ❖ Budget is due to County Commissioners on January 22nd. Minimal increase in Operating Budget 1-2%. Jim wants an itemized, prioritized copy of the Capital Budget.
- ❖ Major maintenance category – Parks fronts money for POS Projects, POS Reimbursements go back to County not Parks. This needs to be corrected – please articulate this at budget hearing. Federal and State grants come out of the general fund and reimburse to the general fund
- ❖ Parks needs to concentrate on ways to connect KIST to CIT
- ❖ Mark Cascia and Laurie Dalziel have been re-appointed to the PRAB. Thank you for your service.
- ❖ July 19th League Meeting will be held to discuss the new fee schedules.
- ❖ More trees will be planted at Old Love Point Park – delay of final renovations are due to locating Eagle Scout who designed the flag pole. Leigh offered to use MVA website to locate scout. Purple Trail moving to center of the park. It was requested that “Park at Your Own Risk” signs be placed at Old Love Point Park.
- ❖ LPPRP – needs to be done for 2021 – Comprehensive Plan? Surveys?
- ❖ Tree Donations – Dorchester and Talbot Counties, Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Trees for Batts Neck, BHGC Nature Area, Grasonville, White Marsh and Conquest.
- ❖ Joan Brooks summarized the adult programs they are offering this year.
- ❖ Request for Drone Camp – may not be a possibility due to State and County ordinances.
- ❖ Whitmarsh 9-hole disc golf course is very popular. North County is requesting one.
- ❖ AED storage is still an issue – Interviewed 5 companies and no one can guarantee – Just going to buy one and hope that it is not vandalized.

Next Meeting:

February 24th at 6:00 PM

Adjourn: Laurie motioned to adjourn. Mark seconded. Adjourned