

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 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.

**REVIEW/APPOVAL OF MINUTES:** Mark Cascia motioned to approve and Vicki Paulas seconded. Motion passed.

**JAMES WOOD REPORT -**

- ❖ Update on Dredging Projects for Corsica River and Price Creek.
  - Corsica River- DMP Site Reclamation has a completion goal for May 15<sup>th</sup>. Dredging to begin shortly after June 15<sup>th</sup>. James described research of historical dredging of Centreville Wharf area to enable town slips to be dredged to -5 foot instead of currently permitted of -3 foot. MDE is looking for post 1972 (Hurricane Agnes) - save \$45,000 in mitigation fees. Transient area for boats visiting Centreville should be included
  - Price Creek – Community loan for dredging. Meeting held in January to go over preliminaries; another meeting Thursday for follow-up. We are investigating the possibility of thin layering material at CBEC.
- ❖ Landing Permits have been distributed to vendors and the rangers are writing citations
- ❖ Nancy is coordinating site design for Visitor Center bulkhead. Getting a permit from DPW. Got an acceptance letter from Bakers to take spoil material to their site.
- ❖ FY2020 Budget has been submitted. Meeting with Finance and County Administrator on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Working with Senator Ben Cardin and Congressman Andy Harris regarding Feasibility Study for Kent Narrows Channel
- ❖ Problem boat has been moved from Bryantown Landing.
- ❖ Crumpton – Grant FY21 hopefully.

**NANCY SCOZZARI REPORT-**

- ❖ Tree planting for spring and fall. Non-Tidal Wetland Permit Application completed today. US Fish and Wildlife start construction of the wetlands at Conquest this summer. Trees planned for Batts Neck, BHGC Nature Area, Grasonville, Ferry Point, OLP, White Marsh and Conquest.
- ❖ Shore Rivers- OLP grant BMP –a grant for the master plan of \$180,000 our match would be \$60,000 which has been set aside already
- ❖ County Wide Trail Map – Working with Bike and Ped Committee, Tourism, hotels at Kent Narrows and Chamber of Commerce on creating in-house map. Highlighting the Cross Island Connector Trail.
- ❖ Waterman’s Memorial – Letter of Intent to Maryland Historic Areas Grant March 15<sup>th</sup>. Working with the Waterman’s Association to get needed repairs
- ❖ Arbor Day/Earth Day – Volunteers for planting container stock trees. Using the auger in advance to set up a random planting plan. Volunteers would fill holes with leaf grow and peat moss. State Forest Law – Mitigation practices of 700 seedling/acre to cover 35-40% mortality. Wips are in container and seedlings are in plastic bags. Have not had a lot of success with “Treemendous” – using local growers.

- ❖ Wetlands Tour – County owes MDE 15-17 acres wetlands (2 decades worth) – Requirement is for forested wetlands – Regulations are difficult. Blue Heron mitigation that was done previously was not done correctly– received only partial reward. Tracking and estimating current and future development - Contractors only pay 30 cents/sq. ft. – can't buy much with that amount of money. Build wetlands – functional and attractive – Kudner Property, Davidson Property, Tanner Property, Blue Heron Nature Preserve, Mattapex. Mitigation is for Kent Island Bay City/Cloverfields development so prefer Chesapeake Bay/Chester River watershed area. CBEC a possibility, but not approved yet.

#### **RECREATION UPDATE:**

- ❖ Basketball and Soccer are done. Shooting Stars begins this week
- ❖ After school bowling has been a success. Video will be on the website
- ❖ Weddings at Matapeake Clubhouse are scheduled for April – May and September – November
- ❖ March – Celebrate the Women 5 K Run scheduled for Conquest
- ❖ July – Fireworks for the 4<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Planning a joint program with the Corsica River Yacht Club.
- ❖ LaDarian Blake has been hired full time and Logan has been hired part-time bringing us to full staff Programs have been distributed among the staff
- ❖ Trips planned to the Philadelphia Flower Show and the African American Museum
- ❖ Taste of Matapeake has been cancelled – conflict with Kent Island Days. Next year we will coordinate with them
- ❖ James Miller – Graduating from Rich Stevenson Institute
- ❖ Adult field sports planned including flag football and Lacrosse – pickup games for ages 18 and over
- ❖ Working with Mike Watson, Eastern Hockey Association, and Talbot County for a 3 day Ice Hockey Tournament

#### **PARKS UPDATE:**

- ❖ Staff Safety Training – Active shooter, CPR/EAD and Stop the Bleed. Stop the Bleed Kits have been placed in all the trucks and in the office.
- ❖ We have re-furbished the hockey rink at Batts Neck – surface has been sealed and nets installed
- ❖ DNR Edible garden is ready for planting at White Marsh Park – replacing elderberry with blueberry plants
- ❖ New floor installed and interior painting done at Batts Neck Restroom – exterior will be completed next
- ❖ The trimming of the South Island Trail has been completed. Repairs done in-house to the walkway bridge. All other bridges are being inspected. Paving will begin when plants open – we will close sections road by road when paving.
- ❖ Pavilion projects done at Mowbray – North County should be completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ❖ Interviews were held for Maintenance Workers the second week in March – two candidates were selected.
- ❖ Turf Rentals are in full swing – money being set aside from rentals for any future repairs.
- ❖ High School fields have been prepared and tryouts and practices are starting. Starting park fields now
- ❖ Meeting tomorrow with Jason Chance regarding 5K triathlon at Matapeake to culminate with our Conquest run

#### **CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

- ❖ Quarterly Update to County Commissioners – Previous year's draft given to Paul
- ❖ POS Reports – All have been address earlier in the meeting except that negotiations for 219 Main Street, Church Hill property are on-going. Meeting with Public Works on March 4th

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ Meeting with Corsica River Sailing Center went well. Their event calendar meets with our current agreement for open access.
- ❖ Meeting tomorrow with CivicRec representatives. Hopefully will replace RecTrac and make it easier for the Parks and the Recreation websites to combine.
- ❖ Graduation conflict with Turf field usage actually benefits BOE from having to set up the usual two possible locations (outside and inside for inclement weather) for ceremony.
- ❖ March 9<sup>th</sup> we have a budget meeting with Finance Dept. and the County Administrator. Commissioner Moran and PRAB want a broken-out list of the Capital Projects. Steve will email tomorrow.
- ❖ Upcoming POS funding - \$317,000 projected. Requested PRAB to think of projects that might align with us. Right of Way for connecting South Island Trail with Cross Island Trail was one thing suggested. Also, need for trail extensions through Queenstown
- ❖ Railroad Association Agreement – Meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>

## **Next Meeting:**

**March 16th at 6:00 PM**

**Adjourn:** Mark motioned to adjourn. Phil seconded. Adjourned