

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2021

Those present during the meeting were:

**PRAB MEMBERS:** Commissioner Jim Moran, Paul Lombardo, Laurie Dalziel, Mark Cascia, Matt Tuma, Phil Starkey, Carla Viar Pullen

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF:** Steve Chandlee, Nancy Scozzari, Mike Watson, Joan Brooks, James Wood, Robbie Blackiston, Eric Beaufait, Breanne Waters.

**GUESTS:** Todd Mohn, Steve Pringle, Evan Winegardner

**Approval of April 2021 PRAB Minutes**

**Motion to approve:** Laurie Dalziel and Mark Cascia

**General Discussion**

- BOE Update: Carla Viar Pullen
  - Preparing for graduation and spring sports
  - No masks required outdoors any longer
  - No indoor spaces to be used till July 1 for camps from BOE
- [MORE Update](#): Steve Pringle
  - Still waiting on a MDE permit before work can continue.
  - Eagle Scout Project might be to create a rest area with picnic tables in the center of the off-road trail
- Disc Golf Course: Evan Winegardner
  - Would like to see a more challenging disc golf course installed, possibly on Kent Island (BHGC area). Trees, elevation, and distance all contribute to making the course challenging. Open to help designing a 9- or 18-hole course.
  - Average size course is 30ft wide and 1200ft long, preferable a zig-zag pattern
  - Usually groups of 4 people at a time, have seen 18 people at a time at Tuckahoe
  - Mark asked if we could put a barcode scanner on the White Marsh Disc Golf to see how popular it is?

**New Business**

- BHGC Update: Eric Beaufait
  - Normal 12 months of revenue received in 6 months for Golf Course and Driving Range, Golf has been Busy
  - Restarted Junior Golf program, age 7-14 from 9am to 11am
  - Various leagues remain full most of the year
  - Groundcrew contract up for rebid in January
  - Hope to rebuild some of the front 9 holes this year
  - New bridge remodel bid going out due to age
  - Re-sod some of the T-boxes in the shady areas
  - Adding a Golf Course Ranger position this coming fiscal year
- Airport Update: Linda Steiner/Steve Chandlee
  - Increased walk-in inquiries and people have a picnic on the grounds and watching the planes take off
  - Design phase of reconstructing the runway for the next year, project completion will be based on whether grant funding is received by 2023.

- Hangers remain full and fuel sales have increased
- Event: Pirate Island Music Festival
  - Individual wanted to host a music festival at Batts Neck, 1500-5000 people in attendance, 6 to 8 Bands, from noon to 10pm, gambling, alcohol.
  - Parks has decided not to allow the event due to parking, type of event, amount of people and there is no benefit to the county
- POS FY22 allotment given is \$391,368
  - \$293,526 for Park Development
  - \$97,842 for Acquisition
  - Planning on using the funds for South Island Travel development

### **Parks and Resource Planning – Nancy Scozzari**

- Kent Narrows – Improvement Projects
  - ‘Street Trees’ – lining Cross Island Trail at Kent Narrows Drawbridge approach northside.
    - Removal/cleanup of existing invasive pear trees, etc. limited due to severe erosion concerns on bridge embankments.
    - Crape Myrtle Trees – 25 to be planted to enhance streetscape/deter erosion/mitigation
    - Wells Cove Rehab – Phased improvement plans to include paving repair, landscaping, bio-retention/drainage and reduction of impervious surface, overall enhancement.
- Terrapin Nature Park – Ranger Station/Restroom Site Plan/Permits/Implementation
  - Public Service Waiver Request
  - In receipt of building slab specifications, awaiting architectural plans for building permit
  - Meeting with consulting engineer to move forward with water/sewer, MEP plans.
  - Site Plan being prepared for permit/contracted site work to commence
- Land Preservation, Park & Recreation Plan
  - Coordination with State DNR & MDP on-going
  - Final guidelines for plan issued by State last week
  - Request for info from County municipalities
  - Re-writing Draft Community Facilities -Parks/Open Space for QAC Comp Plan Update
- Land Appraisals for Route 8 Corridor
  - Being evaluated internally/staff representative to meet w/owners
- Long Point Park Master Plan
  - Removal of overgrown vegetation and control of invasives at pond
  - Site design to provide rain garden/bio retention areas to be planted with appropriate plants rather than attempting to maintain lawn, picnic pavilion/amenities and additional parking
- Blue Heron Nature Park
  - Mowed/Sprayed for invasive control
  - On-going mowing/marking of trails
  - Planted 12,000 tree whips-250 by volunteers (aprox 28 acres), in addition to the 8500 (aprox 12ac) planted last Fall.
- Maryland Heritage Area Authority Grant
  - Application made total of \$72,000 for restoration/painting exterior of Matapeake Clubhouse and construction of and ADA compliant walkway to the shoreline.

- National Recreational Trails Grant
  - Application made total \$50,000 for extension of, filling gaps in Cross Island Trail within the Kent Narrows (connecting north/south quadrants) and providing lighting fixtures.
- Traffic Calming Lights @ Trail Crossings
  - Traffic Concepts installing cameras this/next week for ped count
  - Design Request being prepared for submittal to SHA
  - SHA review anticipated to be approximately one month to six weeks (SHA still working remotely)
- MORE Off-Road Trail @ Terrapin Nature Park
  - Received – GIS plots to be geo-referenced
  - Providing MORE w/crossing construction details/specs as req'd for MDE Non-tidal Wetland App
- Miscellaneous
  - multiple Eagle Scout projects/coordination, review of additional activity requests, plants for park enhancements, etc.
  - Chesapeake Bay Foundation/USFW Healthy Waters Grant – additional projects funded at Batt's Neck/Conquest.

#### **Recreation – Joan Brooks**

- Firework permit has been approved for July 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Executive transportation will help transport people in and out
- Camp registration has started, slow signup rate because masks must be worn all day
- Partnered with Charm City Run, will received 20% of proceeds. Located at OLP early in morning
- Working on Job description changes
- Picnic in the Park on Wednesday from 11am-2 pm at Rt. 18. Helps promotes Healthy Wellness

#### **Parks Update – Mike Watson and Robbie Blackiston**

- Ball field maintenance
  - Batts Neck improving/adding
    - 90' Diamond
    - 60/70' Diamond
  - Installed portable mounds Rt. 18 & White Marsh
    - Delivery due this week for OLPP & Batts Neck
- Prep/Landscaping Work for HS Graduation
  - QACHS- Various athletic field preps
  - KIHS- Various athletic field preps
- Park Improvements
  - New signage for Matapeake/Terrapin/Ferry Pt. installed
  - Cross Island Trail- Seal Coated
  - Installed fence around islands in front parking lot of Batts Neck
  - Repaired bridges on trails
  - Replaced decking boards Ewing Pond Park
  - Removed all beach related signs in Terrapin Park
    - Removed damaged boardwalk along shoreline
- Paving of basketball courts complete
  - Lining OLPP & Pinkney/ Saturday
- Roundtop Park Tennis Courts Paving/Rehab

- New equipment/Trade-Ins
  - Trash Truck
  - Tractor w/bucket for Project Crew
  - 2 Gators for ballfield maintenance
  - Zero-turn mower

#### **Public Landings – James Wood**

- [Landings update](#) is attached

#### **Continuing Business**

- PSA for rules at Terrapin, Ferry Point, Matapeake- received lots of feedback which is good
- Hiring/Vacancy Issues- having trouble hiring staff, will use Public Security to supplement for Seasonal Park Attendant
- [Project Tracking Sheet](#) provides updates on projects
- Next meeting: June 21, 2021

**Motion to Adjourn:** Laurie Dalziel and Leigh Dillon