

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2020

Those present at the meeting were:

PRAB MEMBERS: Vicki Paulas (via Zoom), Laurie Dalziel, Leigh Dillon, Commissioner Jim Moran, Paul Lombardo, Phil Starkey, and Sid Pinder.

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF: Steve Chandlee, Nancy Scozzari, Mike Watson, Joan Brooks and Breanne Waters.

Approval of June 2020 PRAB Minutes

Motion to approve: Jim Moran and Phil Starkey

General Discussion

- Paul commented on the over growing crab grass, vines and limbs that need to be trimmed along the Cross-Island Trail.
 - Jim asked if Paul could provide pictures of the overgrowth.
 - Steve stated that there is no change to time allocated to the trail maintenance.
- Basketball Courts at Love Point have no backboards and nets.
 - Must wait for paving to be completed before backboards can be installed because the poles are crooked.
- Status of AED at Love Point, awaiting box to install AED.
- Paul wanted to know if we had a map/layout of the South Island Trail Extension.
 - Who reaches out to landowners for easements?
- White Marsh Edible Garden is complete, waiting on materials for signage.
 - Will have an open house in Sept. hosted by DNR.
- Bloomfield Historic Site- the county is looking at having a curator come in a fix up the property while living for free or have another organization come in since the Museum fell through because of funding issues.

Public Landings

- New hours and Rates and Matapeake and Romancoke Fishing Piers.
 - Sunrise to Sunset
 - \$2.50 per hour, per vehicle
- Staff is now required to open and close gates at fishing piers.
- Part-time contractual staff advises patrons about the changes and rules of parks. Part-time staff also provides a detail report of their shift each day.
- Steve would like the PRAB members to consider changing the pay machines to credit card only, this would save time spent on collecting, counting and depositing the funds.
- Tidal Wetlands License- Mitigation proposal to remove phragmites on wetlands portion of Town of Centreville lots across Watson Road to appear before BPW on Sept 2nd.
- Anticipated start date for Corsica River Dredging project is Sept 2, 2020, to be completed by Ray Nornes, Inc.
- Collected permit revenue through June 2020.

- Pier revenue exceeded budget.
- Price Creek Dredging project – met July 29 to discuss sampling plans, disposal options, next steps, further explore if compatible with CBEC’s thin layering project.
- Marinas- Late fee waiver extended to Sept 1. Bills were sent out in early July.

Parks and Resource Planning – Nancy Scozzari

- We were awarded the DNR Trust Fund Grant, which provides trees in 5 of our Parks (BHNP, White Marsh, Golf Course- Driving Range, Batts Neck, and Grasonville Park).
- We were awarded the National Fish and Wildlife Grant, to do stream restoration and other best management practices at Old Love Point Park. This will help with field flooding and old drainage issues.
- Kick-off meeting for Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan, every jurisdiction is required to submit a plan. Without that document we would not qualify for Program Open Space money. This plan is due every 5 years, extra requirements are added this year. We will enlist the boards help with some of the items.
- Nancy was asked to and joined the Tourism Advisory Committee.

Recreation and League Update – Joan Brooks

- Our plan for Athletic Field use during COVID-19 was approved and is in effect as of August 14.
 - Required screenings and temperature checks.
 - Parents are not allowed on the field during practices to ensure social distancing.
 - No high-risk sports will be allowed; basketball, competitive cheer, tackle football, futsal, rugby and wrestling until further notice.
 - Recreation staff will be monitoring to make sure everyone is following the rules.
 - If someone does test positive for COVID it is the Coaches responsibility to notify Joan and she is to reach out to the other teams.
- Almost 500 total signups for Field Hockey League, Flag Football, Volleyball Clinic, Volleyball League, High School Field Hockey League.
 - Considering opening Flag Football for High School age kids based on interest.
 - Concern is whether the kids are going to participate in a 7v7 league instead.
- Outside Leagues have a total of 1,940 signups.
- Lost 11 Part time staff to go back to college, but some others are staying home for virtual learning. They will still have enough staff to run the fields.
- Fireworks proposed dates, June 30 with rain date of July 1.
 - Curtis will be responsible for Fireworks this year.
 - KN Development Committee does not want to have activities this coming year.
 - Should keep in mind if construction is going on that time of year, whether to host activities.
- PT Contractual staff position now open.
- Outdoor movies soon to come.
- New Volleyball court installed at Sudlersville Park.
- Turf field rental numbers are high in comparison to last year.

Parks Update – Mike Watson

- Summer Weekend Work / COVID-19 Coverage
 - Beach Monitoring for COVID (16 Park Employees and 4 Recreation employees per weekend)
 - Trash collection weekends on Kent Island and the narrows (3 times per weekend)

- Helping with daily opening and closing of gates at the 2 pier locations, due to the new hours of operation.
- Additional bathroom cleanings (twice daily).
- Additional Porta John service at Beaches and Nature Parks (3 times a week).
- Sports field lining for adult leagues and travel baseball
- Hogan's Lax tournament moved to AA County because he felt he could not comply with our COVID-19 restrictions and documentation.
- Cross Island and South Island Trail paving complete, bollards replaced. Waiting on contractor for cross walk painting.
- Dog Park water system upgrade starting this week.
- Airport bush hogging and trimming completed for yearly inspection.
- Golf Course back nine golf cart paths regraded and paved, had to trim trees for truck access.
- Conquest Beach Pavilion new metal roof installed.
- Bermuda fields have been aerated.
- Debris clean up from the storms.
- Replaced some boardwalk boards at Narrows Eastside and Terrapin Park.
- Basketball rims were reinstalled at some parks.
- Pavilion and Park building upgrades continue, changing to vinyl siding and metal roofs for low maintenance.
- Material shortage is becoming an issue on completing projects.
- Terrapin Park observation blinds changes, to eliminate unwanted usages.
- Matapeake bathrooms opened and repaired.
- Batts Neck bathroom interior remodel complete, waiting on exterior metal to be delivered.
- Meadow mowing completed in all parks.
- Lost 4 Park trucks, they have been removed from service due to failed safety inspections.
- Capital Equipment requests for bids in process for equipment needs.
- First round of BOE flowerbed landscaping complete.
- Playground fiber replacement has started.
- Laid out trail for Crumpton Nature Walk.

Continuing Business

- Dropped capacity numbers for Terrapin, Matapeake and Ferry Point.
- Batts neck paving proposal- we are still searching for funding.
- POS development project- Route 8 extension submitted 8/13/20
 - Starting at Davidson Rd and intend to have it go up to Ellendale but currently do not have enough funding to reach Ellendale.

New Business

- Looking into pricing for installing a flashing light at the Route 8 crossing at KIHS to Cross Island Trail. Will also look at other problem spots as well.
- County is under a hiring freeze, but we were still able to hire 2 Full time Rangers, hopefully will start Sept 2nd.
- FY 21 Projects
 - Pinkney and OLP basketball courts paving.
 - Crumpton Trail and parking lot Tar and Chip has been pushed back again.
 - Grasonville and Mowbray Pickle Ball Courts.

- Tennis courts that we are converting to Pickle Ball Courts.
- FY 21 Capital Equipment upcoming purchases
 - 2 F150 Regular Cab Trucks
 - 2 Bat Wing Mowers
 - 2 Reelmaster Mowers (1 of them the BOE will provided a majority of the funding)
 - 4 John Deere Z994 Diesel Z Turn Mowers
- Possibility of having next PRAB meeting at Vicki's.

Motion to Adjourn: Laurie Dalziel and Phil Starkey

Action Items:	Assigned To:
If possible, to remove Bleachers from Parks to promote social distancing.	Joan
Notify concession stands if someone does test positive for COVID.	Joan
Contact Pierson's for Batts Neck Porta John cleaning.	Joan
Rain-Out line needs to be updated on weekends.	Joan
Find out about Miles Rive Yacht Club Fireworks.	Joan
Groom 90ft Diamond at Grasonville.	Mike / Joan
Ask BUSCA to move to Batts Neck.	Joan
Quote for Cross Island Trail Flashing light.	Nancy
Find out how many vehicles Parks have and their age to present to County Commissioner's	Steve
Paul would like a layout of the South Island Trail Extension plan when ready.	Steve / Nancy
Add agenda and meeting minutes to website.	Steve / Breanne