

MINUTES

Countywide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board

2425 Reddie Drive – 10th Floor

Monday May 8, 2023

Board attendance: B.Bonazelli, A.Gillespie, D.Hawkins, M.Jacknis, C.Nasti, J.Plate, D.Pullen, M.Ricci, M.Stickle and F.Wilson

Ex Officios attendance: T.Gilchrist, G.Kellner, K.Matthews and M.Paul

Staff attendance: J.Dixon, D.Flusche, R.Riley, M.Sasse

Guests: Ryan Colliton; Parks Principal Natural Resource Specialist

6:36 pm Dave Pullen welcomed the group.

6:46 A quorum was confirmed after attendance was recorded and the meeting was called to order. The agenda and the April minutes were both approved.

Ex-Officio reports

- Kendall Matthews from Commission on Aging: Successful Event at the Senior Citizens & Tech Summit; Age Friendly Senior Summit will be in October 2023.

- Tonya Gilchrist from the Commission on People with Disabilities: meeting regarding sidewalks, cross walks, and pedestrian curb cuts; visited Wakefield Pool in Arlington and observed adult changing tables which could be beneficial at county facilities; new Intellectual and Disabilities Commission established.

- Greg Kellner from Montgomery County Public Schools: renovations for seven school fields will be finalized this summer, more to come this fall.

- Myriam Paul from the Community Action Board: nothing to report at this time.

Member inputs and updates

Dave and Skip both attended Scotland Ribbon Cutting

- Alison: street fest on Georgia Avenue was a success; having access to Getty Park Farmers Market; expressed frustration on the Little Falls Parkway vote; is becoming a trail liaison for Cabin John Park.

- Melanie: Kids Day Out is a very helpful program but appears under-utilized.

- Felecia – Prom Dress program was an excellent event

- Michael J – Concern with visibility issues on Sligo Creek Parkway when roads are closed especially at night, there is a signage, technology, and design issue (photos attached)

Staff Reports

Darren Flusche: advocacy and support of budgets and programs are always needed and appreciated.

Ryan Colliton: Discussed the bamboo issue at Cabin John Local Park. A minimal amount is on Parks land. The majority is behind the Clara Barton Community Center. Eradicating bamboo requires a several year commitment. Presentation attached.

Robin offered the following highlights: County-wide job fair was robust and quite successful; there is progress in staffing for camp, pools, and centers, potential October opening of the Silver Spring Recreation Aquatic Center; some budget surplus allowed for additional and/or upgrades on much-needed security cameras; Summer Camps are full and REC is working with Linkages to Learning; Senior BBQ Bonanza is June 23; REC is hosting Senior Olympics currently working on the CIP for FY25-FY30.

Action Item: Poll will be emailed to all for possibility of end-of-year in-person meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm