County-wide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board
Monday, January 13, 2020
Meeting Notes

Present: Board: Carl Blake, Karen Kincer, Chris Richardson, Felecia Wilson, Safiatou Barry, David Pullen, Michael Ma, Ex-officio: Rodrigue Vital, Stephanie Edelstein Staff: Robin Riley, Trish Walsh, John Nissel, Sandra Samuel, Melanie Sasse

Absent: Howard Goldberg, Adriane Clutter, Melanie Stickle, Mark Pharaoh, Benjamin DuGoff, Isaac Osei Asare, Bradley Ryan, Jeffrey Szuchman, Jeffrey Sullivan, Doug Ludwig, Traci Anderson, Michael Shimoff

Phone: Lyle Ganz

Meeting called to order by Karen Kincer at 6:30 p.m.

- Quorum seven (7) present by 7:03 p.m.

Welcome – Chair

- Karen Kincer welcomed the board and introduced two new members
  - Michael Ma
  - Dave Pullen

Review of Agenda

- Reviewed and approved January’s agenda
- Item added – Outreach Advisory Board Update
- Motion made by Carl Blake and seconded by Felecia Wilson. Approved.

Review and approval of November minutes

- Reviewed and approved November’s minutes with minor adjustments
- Motion made by Chris Richardson and seconded by Felecia. Approved.

Community Announcements

- Kensington opened a new dog park

Ex Officio Reports

- Community Use of Public Facilities – Rod Vital
  - New Financial Manager – Patricia Vitale
  - May 1st introducing payment policy
• Commission on Aging – Stephanie Edelstein
  o Addition funding for Wheaton Center
  o Senior programs offered from MCRD
    ▪ Michael Ma - Do you offer all the programs at different facilities for senior?
    ▪ Yes
  o Affordable housing – Silver Spring will include Senior Housing
    ▪ Legislative
    ▪ General Assembly

• Community Action Board – Issac Osei Asare
  o No Report

• Montgomery County Public Schools – Jeffrey Sullivan
  o No Report

• Commission on People with Disabilities – Benjamin DuGoff
  o No Report

Recreation – Robin Riley

• Report submitted electronically

• Budget
  o The County Executive will release his recommended CIP on January 15th
  o C.E. will release Operating Budget on March 15th
  o Request for Community Center refreshes

• Wheaton Rec Center
  o In the hiring process for a new Recreation Specialist
  o Senior programming starts this month.
    ▪ The nutrition program runs two days a week
    ▪ Hoping to have 5 days soon

• Fashion Boot Camp, East County Community January 17th, 100 to 125 kids, at 7:00pm
  o First year family members of the participants can take a boot camp class in the fitness room during program time
  o Finale will be held at Blake HS, due to parking issues at East County
  o Hoping to start Fashion Boot Camp in Up County

• Basketball started this weekend
• Camp Registration on 1/21
  o Administrative office will be open for extended hours for financial assistance registration
• Camp fair to be held at Wheaton Community Center 1/25
• Summer Employment Fairs will be held around the county
• ADA construction in progress at Long Branch Community Center and Longwood Community Center
  o Long Branch parking and building entrance will be located, due to the Purple Line

Parks – John Nissel
• Report submitted electronically
• County Council Vision Zero Town Hall on December 14th
• Salt Summit – Salt Wide Pledge
• In-Service Training (IST)
  o Speaker, Milton Hinton
  o Theme, “Grow Your Potential and Know Your Value”
• Bill Tyler, Montgomery Parks, Division Chief for Southern Parks Division, was promoted to the Director of Parks for Prince George’s County
• Recruitment for the 2020 class of the Commission -wide Language and Literacy Program
• Montgomery Parks Access Team 2019 Numbers at a Glance
  o 2,100+ documented barrier removals since 2015
  o $1.8 million funded annually for ADA compliance improvements
• Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
  o The County Executive will release his recommended for CIP on January 15th.
  o Parks will brief the Planning Board on those recommendations later in January
  o The Council County will hold public hearings and committee work sessions on the CIP in February
• The Gardens of Light was a success
  o Records crowds
• Park Speaker Series, January 17th from noon to 2 pm
Speaker – Katie Tooke
Subject – On trends in playgrounds design

- The Annual Municipal Parks and Recreation Department Meeting on January 10th
- Maydale Nature Center is now opened
  - Waiting for solar panels
  - Ribbon-cutting in the Spring
  - Repurposed building, all sustainable materials

**Budget Advocacy Plan**

- Capital Improvement – Contact Staff to see what the issues are and report back to the board
- Operating Budget – will be release on March 15th to the public
- Testimonies on February 5th and 6th

**Poolesville Fair Access Update**

- Should advocate to C.E.
- Support MCRD and Parks
- Program for seniors – HSS grant for working seniors
- Limited space to do activities
- Transportation barriers
- Fair distribution of fair access
- Michael Ma – Has the County consider leasing a space?
- Carl Blake supports high-level language in support of Poolesville
  - Referred to November minutes
  - Exercise program, nutrition, and life expectancy
- Felicia Wilson - Do we single out one or do we include Clarksburg?
- Carl Blake – What can we agree on for testimonies?
  - Good subject matter with supporting facts
- Draft a brief summary for CIP and Operating Budget from John Nissel and Robin Riley
- Parks will present a CIP presentation at the next meeting
- Parks and MCRD will provide brief summaries to the board
- Carl Blake suggest moving the next meeting to February 3rd
- Felicia Wilson volunteered Karen Kincer to speak on behalf of the board
- Karen Kincer will register to testify
John Nissel suggest keeping comments to two minutes

- Robin Riley will send information on the 15th and highlight Poolesville

Outreach to Regional Board

- The letter was sent out
- East County
  - Robin presented to advisory board
  - Great conversation with MCPS – Partnership with MCRD

8:20 pm ADJOURN