

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> introducing payment policy

- Commission on Aging – Stephanie Edelstein
  - Addition funding for Wheaton Center
  - Senior programs offered from MCRD
    - Michael Ma - Do you offer all the programs at different facilities for senior?
    - Yes
  - Affordable housing – Silver Spring will include Senior Housing
    - Legislative
    - General Assembly
- Community Action Board – Issac Osei Asare
  - No Report
- Montgomery County Public Schools – Jeffrey Sullivan
  - No Report
- Commission on People with Disabilities – Benjamin DuGoff
  - No Report

#### Recreation – Robin Riley

- Report submitted electronically
- Budget
  - The County Executive will release his recommended CIP on January 15th
  - C.E. will release Operating Budget on March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Request for Community Center refreshes
- Wheaton Rec Center
  - In the hiring process for a new Recreation Specialist
  - 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 17<sup>th</sup>, 100 to 125 kids, at 7:00pm
  - First year family members of the participants can take a boot camp class in the fitness room during program time
  - Finale will be held at Blake HS, due to parking issues at East County
  - Hoping to start Fashion Boot Camp in Up County
- Basketball started this weekend

- Camp Registration on 1/21
  - 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
  - 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 14<sup>th</sup>
- Salt Summit – Salt Wide Pledge
- In-Service Training (IST)
  - Speaker, Milton Hinton
  - 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
  - 2,100+ documented barrier removals since 2015
  - \$1.8 million funded annually for ADA compliance improvements
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
  - The County Executive will release his recommended for CIP on January 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Parks will brief the Planning Board on those recommendations later in January
  - The Council County will hold public hearings and committee work sessions on the CIP in February
- The Gardens of Light was a success
  - Records crowds
- Park Speaker Series, January 17<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2 pm

- Speaker – Katie Tooke
- Subject – On trends in playgrounds design
- The Annual Municipal Parks and Recreation Department Meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> to the public
- Testimonies on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

#### 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 3<sup>rd</sup>
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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