County-wide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board  
Monday, February 03, 2020  
Meeting Notes

Present: Board: Carl Blake, Karen Kincer, Chris Richardson, Felecia Wilson, Safiatou Barry, David Pullen, Michael Ma, Mark Pharao, Michael Shimoff  Ex-officio: Rodrigue Vital, Benjamin DuGoff  Staff: Robin Riley, Trish Walsh, John Nissel, Adriane Clutter, Traci Anderson, Doug Ludwig

Absent: Howard Goldberg, Melanie Sasse, Isaac Osei Asare, Bradley Ryan, Jeffrey Szuchman, Jeffrey Sullivan, Sandra Samuel, Lyle Ganz, Stephanie Edelstein

Phone: Melanie Stickle

Guests: Charlotte Keys,

Meeting called to order by Karen Kincer at 6:34

• Quorum seven (7) present by 6:32

Welcome – Chair

• Karen Kincer welcomed the board

Review of Agenda

• Reviewed and approved January’s agenda

• Motion made by Carl Blake and seconded by Mark Pharao. Approved.

Review and approval of January minutes

• Reviewed and approved January

• Motion made by Mark and seconded by Chris Richardson. Approved.

Community Announcements

• No announcement

Ex Officio Reports

• Community Use of Public Facilities – Rod Vital
  o No reports

• Commission on Aging – Stephanie Edelstein
  o No reports
- 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

- Camp Registration is under way
  - 5 Summer Fun Centers filled in the first minute of registration
  - Summer Fun Center 15 full now
  - Mark – Do other camps fill and do park refer to rec camps?
    - Depends on subject
    - Using the same system helps the customer
  - Chris - How we keep up with demand the next year?
    - We can keep trend with contract camps
    - Summer Fun Centers are tax based and harder to add new sites due to budget
    - Short on school space
    - Robin is having meaningful conversations with MCPS to run programs together
    - Should the board advocate for more money for Summer Fun Centers?
      - Could be helpful
    - Pull Data from Active may help to advocate
    - Parks and Rec can not keep up with the demand

- Week 4 of basketball
- Great kick off Fashion Boot Camp 80 registered so far
- Prep for CIP
- Go to OMB Thursday 2/6
- Spring Guide just came out
  - Registration start 2/10
  - SOAR 2/17
- RFP for new software out tomorrow 2/4
  - Share with Parks, REC and CUPF
- Metro Swim Meet this weekend Germantown indoor pool
  - Most elite swim competition in the state
- Week 3 of Futsal
Recreation Budget Update – Charlotte Keys

- Budget is not finalized - meeting schedule 2/6 with OMB to Review enhancements and discuss existing budget
- VOLT team
  - First time for outcome-based funding - based on results - TURN THE CURVE
  - OMB members
    - Considers highest priorities
- Rec asked for $4 million
  - OMB will ask questions
  - Then will move to council
- Thursday - have a better idea of what OMB will approve to move forward
- Current budget $41.2 million enhanced budget request is 45
  - Baseline is about 70% of staff and building funding
- Karen - What is your understanding of how outside groups fit in?
  - Come from direct encounters with County Council
  - The board has until March 15th
  - County Executive only does townhall - letters are welcome
  - Commission on aging has been a very good advocate for senior programming
- Rodrigue - How does revenue change the budget?
  - Non tax supported fund must collect what is spent
    - May cause a struggle to keep fees reasonable to public because of offsetting cost
- Chris - Can you have sponsors?
  - A public agency must offer sponsorships to all groups which makes it difficult
  - County Executive is putting a work group together to help with sponsorships
  - Friends of Rec moved to community outreach group
    - Funding has been issued to help cover 20% fee that Rec Assistant customers must pay

Parks – John Nissel

- Camp Registration
  - Skating and archeology camps fill in one night
  - Most camps have waiting list
  - Marye Wells-Harley Dream Camp Scholarship
- Present Parks Conservation Resource plan to board
  - 4 goals - Waste reduction
  - Ride sharing, walkable community
  - Budget $3.4 million
    - 36 projects on the books

Carl - What is going to happen to Parkside after moving to Wheaton?
- Parks not keeping it. Possibly a new school

- **2019 Volunteer wrap up**
  - Stream valley clean ups
    - 256k bags of trash
    - 8k lbs of trash
    - 4k of recycling
    - 5300 volunteers with 12800 hours
    - Must sort trash and recycling - vendor was not reporting trash
  - Recycling number up due to demos 3 or 4 times a year
    - Cut down trees and recycles the lumber

**Parks Budget Update – Carl Morgan**

- CIP 6-year budget renewed every 2 years reviewed every year
- County Council is reviewing FY 21-26
- Some funding Rolls over
- Parks is not Montgomery County Government
  - State law requires CIP be approved 11/1 for two years then County Executive sees how is fits into county priorities
- Jan 15 when County Executive recommends his budget
  - Asked to make reductions by funding source not project
  - Letter submitted today 2/3 asking the Council not to cut from request
    - Close to budgeting in a recession
  - County Executive asked Parks to cut $18.1 million - did not support additional $3.6 from CUPF for parks
    - Parks does not want to cut $3.6 from CUPF for MCPS parks and standalone projects
    - Identified projects to cut from – Including
      - Ending program to maintain MCPS fields
      - Ovid Hazen Wells activity park (moving carousel from Wheaton),
      - Delay funding for Brookside Gardens, program to replace aged infrastructure (ask Sandra how much)
- Priority funding
  - Playgrounds, trails, tennis courts and basketball courts etc.
  - Quality of park athletic fields and parks in Urban areas
  - Bringing park systems up to ADA standards
  - Northwest branch trail, Cricket Field
  - Blackhill Classroom
- Passed around a letter to Council
- Mark - Is South Germantown is Parks Field?
  - MD Soccer Foundation, Parks, MCR run the pool, and outside partnerships
- David – What is the ratio of request for existing renovation and new projects
  - Renovations and maintenance 58%
  - Land acquisition 20%
  - New parks 22%
- Mark – Wasn’t the $3.5 million from CUP a gift?
Yes, but Parks still needs funding to-
  - Keep up with renovations
  - Help fix fields
  - Some fields have not been funded
  - Council wants Parks to maintain 80% of MCPS Fields

- Michael Yu - Why are most of the cuts or delays up county? Up County has a perception Down county get more attention. Cuts seem to reinforce that perception.
- Mark asks if Council has final say on projects?
  - YES
- Council will go into committees
  - Review committee then will go to full council
- Operating Budget - next
  - Union agreement is unknown and must be plugged into the Operating Budget and done by April

**Budget Advocacy Plan**

- CIP and Operating are different
  - Speaking at the testimony and a letter to the County Executive are important
- Review draft letter for testimony
  - Make minor changes to verbiage
    - add Up County projects with Brookside project
- Motion to authorize testimony made by David Pullen seconded by Michael Shimoff
  - Approved.
- Karen will make revisions and recirculate
- CE Operating Budget is March 15
- Possible research and letter before March 15 to advocated for SFC

8:25 pm ADJOURN