

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
 - No reports
- Commission on Aging – Stephanie Edelstein
 - 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 archology camps fill in one night
 - Most camps have waiting list
 - Marye Wells-Harley Dream Camp Scholarship
- Present Parks Conservations 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 3
 - 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 it 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 CUPF 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