

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
July 26, 2017**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Judy Baker, Mike Rodgers, Derek Ludlow, Carolyn Garber, Tony Rosas, and John Marks

Members Excused: Bill Bramble, Tom Long, Dave Dolch, Sue Ruppert, and Caitlin Christ

Staff Present: Candy Sharrer and Lisa Carroll

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on July 26, 2017 at the County Office Building's public hearing room 003/004. The meeting was called to order at 7:24 p.m. by board chair Mike Rodgers.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Derek Ludlow moved to approve the June 28, 2017 meeting minutes, Judy Baker seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Bear Branch Nature Center Nature Playground:** Ribbon cutting held July 14 and attended by Commissioner Wantz and Sam Kurth-Ford who donated his tooth fairy money to campaign. Thanks to Board members that attended.
- **Bohde's Place Playground Dedication:** New sign installation, dedication and donor recognition scheduled for August 1 at 9:30 am. Jami Henley raised over \$60,000 in memory of her late husband and son and combined with county funds to construct playground
- **Taneytown Rail Trail:** A letter is being sent by Commissioners to Governor Hogan's office requesting assistance with securing control of abandoned rail line
- **Deer Park Expansion:** A public meeting will be held on August 9 at 7 pm at the Deer Park United Methodist Church to review preliminary plan for expansion of Deer Park on new 18.85 adjacent parcel
- **Piney Run Kayak Launch:** A new kayak launch area was recently constructed near the Nature Center for program use. The launch was funded by a planned donation from the late Erma Gebb, a former park volunteer and employee
- **Park Maintenance Meeting:** Staff met with management staff from Public Works and Facilities in July to discuss park maintenance and ways to improve communication. Meeting was positive and ongoing meetings to be scheduled to ensure ongoing positive results

- **Capital Project Update:**

- Bark Hill – new playground, two single table pavilions, paving of parking lot and short walkway to playground
- Freedom Park – playground replacement
- Cape Horn Park – trail resurfacing
- Sports Complex – parking lot overlay
- Parking Lot Overlays – Bennett Cerf, Landon Burns and Deer Park
- WVMP – addressing review comments, next stop Planning Commission
- MacBeth Way Trail – nearing completion

CAPITAL COMMITTEE REPORT AND APPROVAL:

Mike Rodgers shared the re-prioritized capital projects recommendation with the Board.

- **1st Priority: Charles Carroll – Tennis and Basketball Court Revitalization:** Remove and replace paving, provide new court coatings and new fence fabric. *Total Estimated Cost, \$140,602*
- **2nd Priority: Leister Park – Phase 1.5:** Construct an access road, new parking lot, multipurpose play field and additional walking trail. *Total Estimated Cost, \$838,380*
- **3rd Priority: Hashawha/Bear Branch – Paving:** Repave existing paved areas around Hashawha Environmental Center and Bear Branch Nature Center. *Total Estimated Cost, \$472,666*
- **4th Priority: Piney Run Park – Paving for Pavilions 4 & 6:** Pave existing stone road and parking areas associated with pavilions 4 & 6. *Total Estimated Cost, \$199,817*

Jeff Degitz shared that if there is not enough funding to complete Leister Park Phase 1.5 it could be split into two funding years with the trail extension one year and the park road extension, parking lot and ballfield in the other year. Jeff also shared the FY18-23 CIP with the Board. No changes were currently requested for the CIP however if the need arises the Bennett Cerf Bridge Replacement may need to be moved up to complete sooner if additional funding is available.

John Marks moved to approve the re-prioritized capital projects as recommended by the Capital Committee. Judy Baker seconded and all concurred.

VOLUNTEER HALL OF FAME:

Jeff Degitz reviewed with the Board some of the decisions made during sub-committee meeting last year.

- 20 or more years of service
- The individual does not still need to be active or alive
- The significance of impact the individual had to the community
- Lasting contributions and impact on recreation and parks
- A max of five nominees the first three years, then a max of 2 nominees thereafter
- Department of Recreation and Parks can nominate one individual each year in addition to rec council nominees to cover individuals who were not directly affiliated with a council or who precede current council members awareness
- Once nominees are received, the full Advisory Board reviews and scores the applications 1 through 13

- Individuals receiving HOF/lifetime award will be recognized at annual Volunteer of the Year ceremony

A list will be emailed to the Advisory Board prior to the next meeting on September 28th for review.

Tony Rosas asked if the Hall of Fame could be made public for additional nomination suggestions. A press release will be distributed in addition to direct contact with the recreation councils.

STRATEGIC PLAN (UPDATE):

Jeff Degitz shared that the subcommittee met on June 7th to discuss goals and will reconvene August 9th to discuss strategic plan objectives. The subcommittee has been emailed a revised copy for review and comments. The final updates will be brought to the October Advisory Board Meeting for final review and approval.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Lisa Carroll shared that the Park Pursuit finale party for participants will be August 18 at the Farm Museum. The Department is organizing a Pickle Ball Tournament co-sponsored by United Healthcare for mid-October. Derek Ludlow and Lisa Carroll both shared that September 9th will be the first Free LAX Adaptive P.E. Program for participants to try. Jeff Degitz shared that September 10th is the Annual Monarch Festival at Bear Branch Nature Center.

OTHER COMMENTS:

Jason Sidock, President of Charles Carroll Recreation Council stood and shared some concerns within the council. Jason asked what the proper procedure should be to handle a volunteer that may be acting inappropriate. This question comes with knowing that volunteers cannot be denied participation but can be asked to leave a situation/meeting if behavior is inappropriate. An invite to attend the next Charles Carroll Recreation Council Meeting (September 11th at Bear Branch) was extended to the Advisory Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Derek Ludlow and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Candy Sharrer

Candy Sharrer, Secretary