

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
February 27, 2019**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Judy Baker, Mike Rodgers, Derek Ludlow, Tony Rosas, Dave Dolch, Kristin Darby, John Marks, Caitlin Christ and Donald Gerkin

Members Excused: Carolyn Garber and Tom Long

Staff Present: Candy Sample, Ric Buchanan and Lisa Carroll

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on February 27, 2019 at the County Office Building's public hearing room 003/004. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by board chair Tony Rosas.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Derek Ludlow moved to approve the October 24, 2018 meeting minutes with appropriate changes, John Marks seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

SELF-HELP PROJECT REQUESTS:

Tony Rosas asked all presenters to please stand if they are in attendance for ballfield mix/dirt.

- *North Carroll Recreation Council – Presented by Mike Hernandez*

Mike is requesting softball infield mix.

Total project cost: \$6,751.65; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,025; County Funds: \$5,727

- *Taneytown Athletic Association – Presented by Stephen Turner*

Stephen is requesting infield mix for Taneytown High School Park.

Total project cost: \$5,600; Rec. Council Contribution: \$900; County Funds: \$4,700

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Jeffrey Castonguay*

Jeff is requesting ball field mix for Jaycees Park.

Total project cost: \$6,000; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,440; County Funds: \$4,560

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Jeffrey Castonguay*

Jeff's second request is ball field mix for Dutterer Park.

Total project cost: \$700; Rec. Council Contribution: \$165; County Funds: \$535

Tony explained with respect that the advisory board is at the understanding that the field mix/dirt requests are all due to erosion from rain, poor conditions of the existing or the need to reconfigure the field layout. He then asked Ric Buchanan to explain the process of procuring dirt to the presenters and to the board.

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Jeffrey Castonguay*

Jeff is requesting replacement of delaminated countertop and customer service top in the snack shack at Jaycees Park for sanitary purposes and age.

Total project cost: \$2,000; Rec. Council Contribution: \$475; County Funds: \$1,525

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Jeffrey Castonguay*

Jeff's next request is for fence enhancement from 4' to 10' for safety from foul balls.

Total project cost: \$19,000; Rec. Council Contribution: \$4,740; County Funds: \$14,260

- *Winfield Recreation Council – Presented by Steve Willingham*

Steve is requesting a new updated and light weight wrestling mats to be stored at Century High School.

Total project cost: \$12,365; Rec. Council Contribution: \$3,067; County Funds: \$9,298

Westminster Area Recreation Council's fifth request was withdrawn from consideration by the Advisory Board due to no representative being present.

Lisa Carroll shared that two Central Carroll requests were sent in but missed due to being sent to the incorrect recipient. Tony Rosas asked what the requests were for. Robert Freter stood to explain and shared copies with the advisory board. He is asking for soccer goals (\$4,650) at Sandymount and metal bleachers (\$10,000).

Jeff Degitz shared that the projects exceed the remaining county funds available. The advisory board may discuss action this evening or the advisory board sub-committee can discuss at a later time.

Ric Buchanan shared that the remaining county funding is at \$18,948 and one possible resolution would be to fund the number one requests at 65%.

John Marks made a motion to accept for consideration, Central Carroll's request for soccer goals and Tony Rosas seconded. The remaining 7 advisory board members opposed due to the submission error and the motion was dismissed.

After a short discussion Derek Ludlow moved to approve full funding for the Winfield mat and an equal percentage (as calculated by Ric Buchanan) of remaining county funds to the ball field mix requests. Dave Dolch seconded the motion and all concurred.

Jeff Degitz shared that the next step in this process is to take the board's recommendation to the County Commissioners for their approval of the fund transfers.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Carroll 101 Class** – Carroll Community College has offered the non-credit class for residents who want to learn more about how County government works. Recreation and Parks was included on this week's agenda.
- **Recreation Services for Seniors** – After surveying Seniors in Action members, the decision was made to continue their regular meetings as social gatherings with an opportunity for program feedback. The current board members agreed to continue to serve and the department agreed to manage programming and trips open to a broader age group (50+). A new "brand" called EPIC (Experienced People in Carroll) has been created with new logo and was introduced in the Spring 2019 Program Guide. Thanks to Lisa Carroll and Becky Kishter for their efforts with this initiative.

- **Needs Assessment Surveys** – Two surveys are underway – one public and one random. Over 1,150 responses to public survey. 630 random surveys sent out and we are pushing for at least 20% return rate. Results will be shared with Commissioners and Advisory Board in March.
- **Water Trail Expansion** – Recreation and Parks is looking for additional water access along the Monocacy Scenic River and Big and Little Pipe Creeks for fishing and kayak launch areas. Verbal agreement has been reached with one property owner and several others have been contacted.
- **Self Help Policy Change** – Further clarification now included in policy with regards to requests related to playing surfaces vs. program equipment. This should assist both recreation councils and the Advisory Board when determining which projects are eligible.
- **Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** – Grant funding requested to help support construction costs for Double Pipe Creek Park boat launch project. If awarded, grant would pay for 50% of construction costs.
- **Luna Moth Project** – Luna Moth sculpture being created for Bear Branch Nature Center (BBNC) in honor of The Luna Moth Project has been designed in honor and memory of SSgt James (Jimmy) Michael Malachowski, United States Marine Corps who was killed in Afghanistan in 2011. Jimmy was a former volunteer at BBNC and a North Carroll High School graduate. Dedication scheduled for Saturday, March 30 at 10 am at BBNC.

Capital Project Update:

- **Westminster Veterans Memorial Park** – received storm water approval; submitted for agency review
- **Deer Park** – currently receiving agency review comments
- **Bennett Cerf Park bridge replacement** – concrete supports in place, bridge on site; repairs needed to stream bank under bridge due to storm damage
- **Double Pipe Creek Park kayak launch** – design underway, construction funds available July 1
- **Charles Carroll Community Center** – fencing completed; bids received for basketball/tennis court paving which should be completed in spring
- **North Carroll High School Turf Field** – Commissioners voted unanimously to move forward with project supported by \$500k county funds and proposed \$500k State bond bill

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR:

John Marks on behalf of the nominating committee, nominated Tom Long as Vice Chair. Judy Baker seconded and motion was carried by unanimous vote.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

John Marks shared an article that came out in the Carroll County Times in December. It was based around the Long Term Advisory Council and what there is to do in Carroll County. He asked if Jeff had information on this article. Jeff Degitz shared that he was in contact with sub-groups around that time and shared information as to our programs and events.

Lisa Carroll shared that the 4th Annual Bruce Dutterer Golf Tournament will be held Friday, May 31st 7:30am at Oakmont Green Golf Course in Hampstead.

Derek Ludlow asked if the department has a stance on the Maryland House Bill 1106. The bill would limit an annual football season to the months of August through December; prohibits a youth sports program from offering, approving, or sponsoring football or certain physical activities related to football during the months of January through July; requires a certain youth athlete to use certain equipment when participating in certain sports; limits the number of certain types of practices for football for certain youth athletes; and limits the types of contact certain youth athletes may engage in for a certain sport. Jeff Degitz shared that he is aware of the Bill and is working with Mike Fowler, Legislative Liaison for the Carroll County Commissioners.

Tony Rosas asked if the department would be interested in co-joining the Century Bicycle Ride event. Jeff responded he is open to the concept and asked that Tony send more information on the event to our department.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Derek Ludlow and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Candy Sample

Candy Sample, Secretary