

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

Approved Minutes

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

Members Excused: Carolyn Garber and Caitlin Christ

Staff Present: Ric Buchanan, Lisa Carroll, Brad Rogers, Dawn Harry, Matt Decker, and Becky Kishter

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on March 27, 2019 at Hashawha Environmental Center. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by board chair Tony Rosas.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tony Rosas requested that the minutes be amended to read “Century bicycle ride” instead of bicycle ride at Century. Kristin Darby moved to approve the February 27, 2019 meeting minutes as amended, Donald Gerkin seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

- **Luna Moth Project** – Luna Moth sculpture unveiling scheduled for Saturday, March 30 at 10 am at Bear Branch Nature Center (BBNC) 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. Advisory Board members are invited and all five Commissioners are scheduled to attend.
- **Northwest Rail Trail** – Recent communications with Genesee & Wyoming and the Maryland Transit Administration have been very positive. We are hopeful that the corridor ownership issues will be resolved soon and project can move forward
- **Turf Field Update** – Delegation initiated a \$500,000 bond bill to supplement the \$500,000 previously budgeted by the Commissioners towards this project. Bond bill is moving forward but at a reduced amount of \$150,000. Four Seasons Sports Complex is also moving forward with plans for a turf field and soliciting letters of intent of usage from user groups

- **Rec Council Publicity Efforts** – Several rec. councils have expressed concerns re: publicizing of programs out of their communities, possible recruiting of players and coaches from other areas and challenges for getting information to families in communities lacking schools. We recently met with representatives from several councils to address issue and will discuss further at future Friends of Carroll Recreation & Parks meeting. In addition, all that we met with agreed that more effective and proactive communication between councils will address most of the concerns. However, because of school closures, families may be deciding whether their children participate with classmates OR neighbors and rec. council programs are adjusting.
- **Recreation Council Opioid Survey** – We are working with Winfield Recreation Council on a possible community forum regarding the opioid issue. We have distributed a 10 question survey to their membership list and are looking at possible community forum if there is interest.
- **Piney Run Big Fish** – Once again this year, Piney Run opened its season on March 1 with a really big fish that was quickly surpassed in this highly competitive season long contest. The current leading fish measures 43” and weighs 32 lbs. The “Big Fish” contest runs through November 30 with \$1,000 prize. The contest was designed as a way to generate additional revenue and park visitation during the season’s extended months of March and November – also great months for fishing.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - a. Henry Lysy Fishing Rodeo: April 28, 8 am – 2 pm @ Westminster Community Pond
 - b. Adaptive Recreation Bike Rodeo on May 18 at Robert Moton Center from 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
 - c. Krimgold Park Youth Fishing Rodeo: May 19, 8 am – 2 pm
 - d. Bruce Dutterer PLF Golf Tournament: May 31 @ Oakmont Green

Capital Project Update:

- **Bennett Cerf Park bridge replacement** – concrete supports in place, bridge on site; received green light from MDE for repairs needed to stream bank under bridge due to storm damage; anticipate completion in May
- **Charles Carroll Community Center** – bids approved/contract signed for basketball/tennis court paving which should be completed in spring; concerns raised re: likelihood of very costly road improvements
- **Volume of Capital Projects** – Ric Buchanan working with 64 projects (CIP, Park Restoration, Self Help) that are underway or have been completed with approximately ½ awarded to local vendors

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

County Commissioners Dennis Frazier, Richard Weaver and C. Eric Bouchat each shared comments expressing their appreciation for the Department's efforts and thanking the Advisory board for extending the invitation to the meeting.

2019 NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY RESULTS:

Director Jeff Degitz shared the results from recent needs assessment surveys conducted by the department and discussed how this info would be used as we enter the beginning of next year's capital budget process.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR:

Donald Gerkin moved to approve Tom Long as Vice Chair, Kristin Darby seconded, and all concurred. This meeting concludes Tony Rosas' term as Chair and the Board expressed their appreciation to him for his efforts. Judy Baker assumes the position of Chair at the conclusion of this meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by John Marks, seconded by Tony Rosas, and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Candy Sample

Candy Sample, Secretary