

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
June 26, 2019**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Judy Baker, Kristin Darby, Dave Dolch, John Marks, and Donald Gerkin

Members Excused: Carolyn Garber, Tony Rosas, Tom Long, Derek Ludlow, Mike Rodgers and Caitlin Christ

Staff Present: Candy Sample and Lisa Carroll

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on June 26, 2019 at the County Office Building's public hearing room 003/004. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by board chair Judy Baker.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The May 22nd minutes approval will be voted on next meeting as there were not enough members present for a quorum this session.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **County Funds for Dog Parks** – Open session agenda item with Commissioners scheduled for June 27 to review County position on using county funds to develop or improve dog parks.
- **Trail Improvements** – Received \$4,000 donation from Wantz Distributors and commitment of their staff for a fall work day at Piney Run to improve trails.
- **Fishing/Kayak Launch Sites** – Acquisition completed of 2-acre site on Hapes Mill Road that allows for improved access to Big Pipe Creek. Additional improvements will be made to site such as improved parking and signage. Staff are continuing to look at additional areas for acquisition for Little and Big Pipe Creek access.
- **Volunteer of the Year** – Event scheduled for November 5 at Carroll Arts Center; last year up to 5 volunteers may be selected for Hall of Fame with limit then decreasing to 3
- **Self Help Funding Fall 2019** – A total of \$96,250 will be available with \$80k budgeted plus \$16,250 added from closed projects
- **Walk with a Commissioner** – 7/8 Bouchat at Krimgold Park; 7/10 Wantz at Cape Horn Park; 7/16 Frazier at Westminster Community Pond; 7/23 Weaver at Sandymount Park; and 7/25 Rothstein at Freedom Park. All walks begin at 7 pm and all participants get a frozen treat from Kona Ice

- **Capital Project Update**

- *Charles Carroll Community Center and Court Renovations* – paving of tennis and basketball courts completed with striping to be added by end of July
- *Bear Branch Nature Center roof replacement* – bringing to Commissioners for contract approval soon with completion by end of year
- *Sports Complex Lighting* – bringing to Commissioners for contract approval soon with completion during offseason (prior to March 15)
- *Double Pipe Creek Park kayak launch* – waiting for MDE approval of design with construction funding available July 1

CAPITAL PROJECTS PRESENTATION:

Jeff Degitz shared the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) with the Board for review. The projects are a compilation of feedback from staff, the Needs Assessment Survey, and Recreation Councils.

- Bark Hill Park Trail: Trails are the most requested park amenity. This project will provide a 3/4 -mile loop trail in a area with few County parks and none with trails. Estimated FY26 cost: \$241,000
- Cape Horn & Sandymount Parks Waterless Restrooms: Restrooms are the second most requested park amenity, so waterless restrooms will be installed at these two parks. The Cape Horn site replaces a previous restroom and Sandymount will replace spot a pots. Estimated FY26 cost: \$587,000
- Charles Carroll Tot-Lot Replacement: Due to age and condition, the two tot-lots will be replaced with one. Estimated FY26 cost: \$216,000
- Piney Run Park Paving Phase II: Re-surface existing paving that is more than twenty years old on roads and parking lots. Estimated FY26 cost: \$289,075
- Piney Run Park Seawall Replacement: Replace approximately 350' of wood seawall due to age and condition. Estimated FY26 cost: 232,652
- Hap Baker Office Trailer Replacement: Replace aged trailer with site-built office. Funding from the range's enterprise fund will support this project. Estimated FY20 cost: \$106,289 – project will be requested in FY20 operating budget request through enterprise fund.

Jeff shared that the CIP project information will be visited next month for prioritization by the Board.

JULY IS RECREATION & PARKS MONTH:

Lisa Carroll shared with the Board the events being offered by the department in celebration of July being Recreation & Parks Month where this year's theme is "Game On"

- Park Pursuit – Starts July 1st and last through the 31st. To start off the program there will be a Kick-Off Party for registrants at the Farm Museum July 1st, 6-8pm.
 - There will be chances for prizes all month long by completing tasks and sending in photos of participation.

- Virtual 5k Run/Walk – During the month of July you can donate to your favorite park(s) which go towards the Park Legacy Fund. Through donations you could receive a certificate, medal and/or t-shirt.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Jeff Degitz shared a special thank you to Dave Dolch for his service to the Advisory Board. Dave also thanked the Board for being so welcoming. He also thanked the efforts of the Department and recreational sports for all they do for the youth. Carroll County has the highest participation rate of school sports in the state as well as experiencing competitive success. Dave stated that recreation council athletics have greatly supported this ongoing success.

During Public Comment, Ivy Smink asked if funds would be available to the Union Mills area for equestrian trail needs. Jeff shared that there are several options including Self-Help, Rec Council Funds and Park Restoration. It also depends on project needs and priorities for the given year. No capital projects were submitted this year for equestrian trail repairs.

Also during Public Comment, Matt Guilfoyle from the Carroll County Sportsman Association commended the department and county for the safe and controlled environment for avid gun enthusiasts at Hap Baker Firearms Facility.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Judy Baker shared concern of cars parking on the sidewalks at Roberts Mill Park in Taneytown. Jeff said he would discuss with the Director of Recreation & Parks in Taneytown.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by John Marks and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Candy Sample

Candy Sample, Secretary