

RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
**June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Members Present:** Kristin Darby, Tony Rosas, Derek Ludlow, Brad Rockwood, Michael Duffy, Anita Taylor

**Members Excused:** Tom Long, Donald Gerkin, Michael Rodgers, Caitlin Christ, Dave Ferguson

**Staff Present:** Lisa Carroll, Will Brozy, Callie Williams

**Ex-Officio Member Present:** Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at the Robert Moton Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Kristin Darby, Board Chair.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Michael Duffy moved to approve the May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes; Brad Rockwood seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

1. **COVID-19 Update** – Indoor usage of Carroll County schools to resume in the fall
2. **Capital Project Update**
  - Westminster Veterans Memorial Park –playground delayed, now looking at mid-July delivery
  - Krimgold Park - paving of parking spaces delayed, now looking at mid-July
  - Sports Complex – installation of lights on soccer field completed but still need to be tested
  - Gillis Falls Trail – meeting July 23 with MDE regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge crossing; public meetings to be held to give community update
  - Westminster Community Pond – Development of new Sheetz at Sullivan Road and MD 140 may provide opportunity to improve park entrance with turn lane
  - North Carroll High School – settlement scheduled for mid-August; multiple fields including 2 artificial turf; indoor court and field space; performing arts
3. **Piney Run & Hashawha Summer Camps** – Piney Run camps doing well although 1 age group had to be cancelled and enrollment limited due to too few job applicants for

counselors; Hashawha offering 3 day summer nature camp to those graduating 6<sup>th</sup> graders who missed on-site Outdoor School this year

4. **FY 2022 Town Program Open Space Projects** – 25% of Carroll County’s Program Open Space funds will once again be allocated for municipal projects. This year, a total of \$360,496 will be divided equally among 4 towns for the following projects:
  - a. New Windsor – 201 Main Street Park and Town Park (Maple Ave.) improvements
  - b. Taneytown – Taneytown Memorial Park tennis and basketball court resurfacing
  - c. Union Bridge – Union Bridge Community Center Walkway Canopy Roof Repair and new playground equipment
  - d. Westminster – Wakefield Valley Park master plan implementation
5. **Land Preservation, Park & Recreation Plan** – Working with county staff to update mapping and inventory of facilities; a brief survey will be sent to municipalities for input in addition to previously completed Needs Assessment survey; listening sessions to be scheduled in park pavilions this summer; draft plan targeted for December submission to state for review and comment.

Tony Rosas gave a summary of the Trail Committee meeting that occurred this week including an update on the rail trail. We are continuing to communicate with the Genesee & Wyoming Railroad regarding removal of the rails for future rail trail. Union Mills, Hashawha and Bear Branch trail improvements, including signage and grading, were also discussed.

### **Review of Capital Projects Funded for FY 22**

Jeff Degitz reviewed Capital Projects funded for FY 22 which include:

- Bark Hill walking trail
- Bear Branch pavilion replacement
- \$84,000 for Self Help projects
- Lights for the Main field at Deer Park
- Hashawha/Bear Branch paving of park entrance road
- \$329,000 for land acquisition
- Leister Park Phase II, trail extension
- \$180,000 for Park Restoration
- Sports Complex roof replacement
- New tot lots at Charles Carroll, Cape Horn, Landon C. Burns and Hashawha

### **Presentation of New Capital Project Requests**

Will Brozy presented five Capital Projects proposed for FY 28.

1. **Outdoor Basketball Courts at Krimgold, Leister & Westminster Veterans Memorial** - Basketball courts with acrylic overlay would be constructed at these three park locations. All-inclusive including site work, asphalt paving, acrylic court surfacing, accessible

walkways, and all appurtenances. The Needs Assessment Survey indicated a need for additional outdoor basketball courts.

Estimated Cost FY28: \$237,000

2. **Hashawha/Bear Branch Waterless Restroom** - The purchase and installation of ADA compliant waterless restroom and access. Restrooms were the second most requested item on the last two Needs Assessment surveys. Hashawha/Bear Branch currently has no restrooms available to the public when the Nature Center is closed. The restrooms would also serve a proposed new pavilion.

Estimated Cost FY28: \$250,000

3. **Skatepark/BMX track in Taneytown**- In conjunction with the City of Taneytown, the goal is to create the region's first combined skatepark/BMX track that would combine traditional asphalt street transitions to a concrete plaza with expanded structures and a naturalized BMX bike track with a circuit of diverse features. The county has previously partnered with municipalities on all municipal skateparks as well as other projects. Taneytown will be responsible for all maintenance, liability insurance and capital replacement once the park is constructed.

Estimated Cost FY 22: \$195,000

Estimated Cost FY 28: \$244,500

4. **NW Regional Park Phase 1 Development**- Based on the results/programmatic elements that are developed and adopted during the upcoming master planning process; we recommend to earmark funds for the future development of a first phase of development. Staff anticipates these improvements will be focus on core infrastructure development.

Estimated Cost FY 28: \$739,715

5. **Union Mills Trails Master Plan and Phase 1 Implementation**- Procure the services of a multi-disciplinary team to assist Rec and Parks to develop a trail Master Plan. Components of the plan shall include connectivity to Hashawha/Bear Branch, Union Mills Homestead, and the CC Sports Complex, the development of wayfinding and graphic standards, existing route evaluations, suggested and phased route additions, realignments and/or closures and possible phase I design. This project is consistent with the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and addresses the public's number one requested facility.

Estimated Cost for Master Planning and Public Outreach Service FY 28: \$313,500

Jeff Degitz asked the group whether turf fields should be considered as a Capital Project for FY28. He discussed that we do not have a county park site with the proper infrastructure to get the maximum use out of a turf field. The consensus was that the department should continue to follow this topic, especially considering new private turf fields but will not move forward with developing turf fields at this time.

### **Other Business:**

Lisa Carroll announced a new fundraiser for Bennett Cerf Dog Park with Pipe the Side Brewing Company, as well as the new Bennett Cerf Dog Park logo. She also discussed July being Rec & Parks month and gave an update on the 50 Year Logo Hunt.

**Public Comments:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Next meeting will be held in person on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the County Office Building in Westminster. On a motion by Kristin Darby, Michael Duffy seconded, and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeff R. Degitz*

---

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

*Callie Williams*

---

Callie Williams, Secretary