

RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
September 22nd, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.
Approved Minutes

Members Present: Derek Ludlow, Brad Rockwood, Donald Gerkin, Tony Rosas, Michael Rodgers, Anita Taylor, Dave Ferguson

Members Excused: Tom Long, Caitlin Christ, Kristin Darby, Michael Duffy

Staff Present: Will Brozy, Laura Tawes

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on September 22nd, 2021 at the Carroll County Office Building in Room 003. The meeting was called to order at 7:32p.m. by Donald Gerkin, Board Co-Chair.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Jeff Degitz, Board members and staff introduced themselves to Rec Council guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tony Rosas moved to approve the July 28th, 2021 meeting; Derek Ludlow seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. Capital Project Update

- Westminster Veterans Memorial Park –playground delayed, now looking at November with ribbon cutting to follow
- Gillis Falls Trail – held public meeting with community & met with Equestrian Council to give update on project; design continues
- Westminster Community Pond – change in park entrance being considered as part of development review process
- Charles Carroll Community Center groundbreaking – tentatively late October

2. Land Preservation, Park & Recreation Plan –Listening sessions held last week and virtual open house to provide comments online through end of month.

3. Photo Ambassador Program – applications being received to participate in this new program; photos submitted will be used to help promote department activities

4. **Schools & Face Coverings** – New action implemented by State Board of Education has resulted in required face coverings for students at school; action also applies to those using school facilities after school hours such as recreation & parks, except while participating in sports activities
5. **Patapsco Valley Regional Greenway** – effort continues for 40 miles shared use trail from Sykesville to Inner Harbor; input needed for 8.5-mile Sykesville to McKeldin Area segment; next public meeting September 30 at 6 p.m.; register to join meeting or simply share comments at <https://publicinput.com/prgsykesville>
6. **50th Anniversary Event** – event postponed until June due to concerns about recent variants
7. **Job Postings** – WE are in the process of filling several open positions including Park Superintendent (Piney Run), Park Naturalist (Bear Branch), PT Cook Assistant (Hashawha), PT Range Officer (Hap Baker) and PT Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (Main Office)

Self-Help Project Requests:

- Freedom Area – Presented by Steve Burke: Requesting Piney Ridge Elementary gym improvements for Basketball.
Total Project Cost: \$20,270 Rec Council Contribution: \$5,067 County Funds: \$15,203
- Freedom Area – Presented by Sue Chaney: Requesting infield mix at Old Liberty Road Park.
Total Project Cost: \$5,000 Rec Council Contribution: \$1,235 County Funds: \$3,765
- Freedom Area – Presented by Sue Chaney: Requesting infield mix at Freedom Park.
Total Project Cost: \$5,000 Rec Council Contribution: \$1,235 County Funds: \$3,765
- Freedom Area – Presented by Lori Doyle: Requesting dugout improvements at Freedom Park.
Total Project Cost: \$24,950 Rec Council Contribution: \$6,163 County Funds: \$18,787
- Freedom Area – Presented by Kathy Martin: Requesting shade structures at South Carroll Dog Park.
Total Project Cost: \$24,821 Rec Council Contribution: \$6,205 County Funds: \$18,616
- North Carroll – Presented by Matt Muller: Requesting baseball field improvements at Christmas Tree Park.
Total Project Cost: \$21,240 Rec Council Contribution: \$5,060 County Funds: \$16,180
- North Carroll – Presented by Ian Ismirle: Requesting a storage container for Boys Lacrosse at Cape Horn Park.

Total Project Cost: \$3,398 Rec Council Contribution: \$849 County Funds: \$2,549

- Westminster Area – Presented by Robert George: Requesting batting cage improvements at Bennett Cerf Park.

Total Project Cost: \$2,078 Rec Council Contribution: \$319 County Funds: \$1,759

- Winfield – Presented by Anna Sur: Requesting field hockey goals for Krimgold & Mayeski Parks.

Total Project Cost: \$6,780 Rec Council Contribution: \$1,685 County Funds: \$5,095

- Winfield – Presented by Dave Becker: Requesting dugouts at Mayeski Park.

Total Project Cost: \$14,298 Rec Council Contribution: \$3,545 County Funds: \$10,753

An 11th request had been submitted to Will Brozy, the County Facilitator for Self-Help, but a presenter was unavailable for the meeting and the project was removed from consideration. Derek Ludlow moved to approve funding for all requests with Michael Rodgers seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

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.

Volunteer of the Year & Hall of Fame:

The Volunteer of the Year Awards will be presented on Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00pm at the Carroll Arts Center. This will be a ticketed event this year. Information will be emailed by Jeff Degitz to Advisory Board members in the coming week for members to rank those that have been nominated for the Hall of Fame. Derek Ludlow recommended that a nomination committee be formed and that a member of the Advisory Board attend a Friends of Carroll County Recreation & Parks meeting to encourage the rec councils to nominate volunteers for the Hall of Fame.

Other Business:

Tony Rosas requested a copy of the Charles Carroll bylaws. Jeff Degitz will obtain those for him.

Derek Ludlow gave an update on the committee that is selecting a general contractor for the Charles Carroll Community Center building construction project.

Dave Ferguson inquired if there is a way to direct funds to specific programs that are in a make it or break it situation. Jeff Degitz explained that funds are available to all programs within the recreation councils and can be requested during the Self-Help process to support those programs in need.

Public Comments:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Next meeting will be held in person on Wednesday, October 27th, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. On a motion by Anita Taylor, Tony Rosas seconded, and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:39p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Laura Tawes

Laura Tawes, Secretary