

Countywide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday – August 15, 2024 - Virtual via Teams

Present

Members: Michael Ricci, Robin Sparer, Duncan Mullis, Hannah Hutton, Aravind Banda, Michael Jacknis, Ed Krauze, Kelli Hudson, Ryan Holeywell, Yolanda Goettsch

Staff: Robin Riley, Adriane Clutter, Shawna Fachet, Janet Dixon, Jason Fasteau, Henry Coppola, Gary Burnett

Absent

Ann Horton, Melanie Stickle, Gus Delgado, Gislene Tasacyo, Carmen Berrios Martinez

Michael Ricci started meeting at 6:33pm

Review of ad-hoc committee assignments / placements and a discussion of future meeting times.

Janet will check with BCC if a SharePoint page / other possible online tools that can be made available for the Board. Is it possible? Google classroom is not user friendly – people have difficulty navigating the site.

A suggestion was made to have the last 10 to 15 minutes of each meeting for Ad-Hoc Working Groups to convene.

Agreed that CPO will create flyer / link for board vacancies once it is reposted. Janet or Jason will distribute to the board once they are available.

There was a discussion around the possibility of having a student members and a question regarding if students can accumulate SSL hours if they are board members.

Henry Coppola: You'll probably need to check with the MCPS SSL Coordination Office about SSL hours - they have to approve organizations and opportunities for being able to provide SSL hours.

Quorum reached at 6:55pm

Motion to approve agenda – Ed Krauze, seconded by Robin Sparer – all approved

June Minutes

Question – Michael Jacknis noted the wording regarding the playground fund appropriation of \$1.4M is confusing. New language was approved to read:

Adjustment to June Minutes The County was successful in receiving \$1.4M from a state bond initiative for playgrounds. Funds will be allocated over the next two years.

Motion to approve June minutes – Duncan Mullis and Seconded was not captured.

Approved with adjusted language

Hannah reviewed the calendar of events

-REC Events Calendar

Pool Pooch Party – put all board members on list to attend without admission if no dog

-PARKS Events Calendar
Ales and Trails Event

Two suggestions were introduced:

- Bring a more critical eye when attending events.
- The board should attend at least one event as a whole.

Consider volunteering at a water-stop for the 5K Race at Needwood Park on September 8, 2024. Volunteers are needed (no need to run) or in the Spring at the Pikes Peak Race. Janet will send information.

PARKS: Let Gary know if / when you are attending a Parks event so he can make sure staff is aware.

REC: Let Adriane or Shawna know for Recreation events.

Hannah presented a list of potential alternative Park and Rec sites to visit to give exposure and learning. Reminder that virtual can happen at REC sites for sure but can be a challenge with sound / logistics. Some park sites do not operate in the evening – Gary can check for accommodations. Shawna will need advance notice to ensure space is available (given programs, events etc...)

Off-site meetings may work better as a quarterly event rather than monthly.

A reminder that all board meetings are posted on the County Calendar per the Maryland Open Meetings Act. This includes agendas, approved minutes and other materials handed out at meetings.

Adriane addressed child safety when it comes to autistic and others with special needs. Staff is trained on how to handle emergency situations. A discussion ensued.

Budget Forum on September 9 conflicts with next Board Meeting.

Ed – asking about a report from CUPF (Derek Ross) fee structure and use of space at schools.

Jason – Montgomery County Office of Legislative Oversight released a study on Natural Grass and Synthetic Turf Fields. He will send a link to the report.

Motion to Adjourn

Ed- motion

Yolanda –seconded

Approved at 7:38