

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD  
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
Thursday, January 7, 2016**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom Nelson, Chairperson; Richard Buckler, Vice-Chairperson; Doug Bellis, Valerie Brosky, Jake Heibel, Caroline King, Patrick Murphy, Fred Parker and Ashley Varner.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Loewe, R&P Director; Debra Pence, Museum Division Manager; and Kathy Bailey, Recorder. Also in attendance were Jessica Hale, Recreation Division Manager, and Kyle Lightbown, Southern Maryland BMX, who were present for the BMX check presentation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Dick Buckler moved, seconded by Doug Bellis, to approve the minutes of November 5, 2015 with two changes; motion carried 9-0.**

**SOUTHERN MARYLAND BMX CHECK PRESENTATION**

Mr. Kyle Lightbown, President of the Southern Maryland BMX organization, presented a check for \$1,105 to Recreation and Parks for the scholarship fund. The Board and Department thanked the organization for the generous donation.

**MUSEUM DIVISION UPDATE**

Brian Loewe introduced Debra Pence, Museum Division Manager, who provided a report on activities of the Museum Division. Ms. Pence provided a PowerPoint presentation with highlights of facilities including the St. Clement's Island Museum, the Piney Point Lighthouse Museum and Park, the Drayden African American Schoolhouse, and the Charlotte Hall Schoolhouse (Little Red Schoolhouse).

Patrick Murphy asked if there was a brochure of all the historic sites in the County; Mr. Loewe suggested checking with the County's Tourism Office.

**REVIEW OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Loewe referred to the draft annual report document which was emailed to Board members. Mr. Bellis asked staff to check all the font sizes in the document.

**Dick Buckler moved, seconded by Patrick Murphy, to approve the draft document, with applicable font changes, and to submit the report to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County; motion carried with all in favor.**

**FY2017 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Mr. Loewe referred to the handout provided to Board members on the FY2017 – FY2022 Requested Capital Improvements Budget. He highlighted new projects and proposed changes to existing projects. This included a replacement "bubble" structure and blower system for the Great Mills Pool; demolition of a building on County property adjacent to the trail; and replacement soccer goals.

Mr. Murphy asked if Derelict Boat removal funds could be used to remove debris from McIntosh Run. David Guyther, Parks Manager, will need to address that question. He also asked about future collaboration with SMCPs on the playground at Lettie Dent School.

Mr. Bellis asked if accommodations for tennis and pickle ball could be made within the Recreation/Community Center project; Mr. Loewe stated that he will look into that as the project moves forward. Provisions for pickle ball may also be made at Leonardtown Park.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

Mr. Loewe provided an update on the status of several park and facility improvement projects.

### **Three Notch Trial Phase VI**

- Construction is currently underway on this five mile section of trail which runs from MD Route 5 in Mechanicsville to MD Route 236 in new Market.
- Anticipated opening in spring 2016; construction is approximately 80% complete.

### **Lancaster Park**

- Project is expected to be rebid in the near future and a contract awarded this spring.

### **Parks and Facilities Improvements for FY2016**

- Nicolet Park Skatepark - Old rubber surfacing has been removed and new surfacing will be installed this spring.
- Cecil Park - New lights are being installed at the 90' baseball field and the parking lot.
- CRRP – Asphalt overlay to be completed this spring.
- Softball/Baseball field fencing – project is 70% complete.
- Clarkes Landing Boat Ramp – Design/engineering for the project is underway.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Caroline King volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee for the Election of Officers to be held during the next Board meeting.

Mr. Loewe thanked Jim Swift and Teresa Howard for the service to the Board.

## **NEXT MEETING OF R&P BOARD**

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2016.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on February 4, 2016.