

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Thursday, March 1, 2018
5:30 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Caroline King, Chairperson; Patrick Murphy, Vice-Chair; Doug Bellis, Tom Nelson, Fred Parker and Ashley Varner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dick Buckler and Floyd Warren. Jake Heibel resigned from the Board February 6, 2018.

RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director; David Guyther, Parks Manager; Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator; and Kathy Bailey, Recorder.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Caroline King called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Fred Parker moved, seconded by Tom Nelson, to approve the minutes of February 1, 2018; motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC LANDINGS BRIEFING

David Guyther, Parks Manager, provided a briefing on the sixteen County managed public waterfront landings. They include landings with piers, boat ramps, and landings that are suitable for canoe/kayak launching only.

PARK ATHLETIC FIELD PLAN

Mr. Guyther and Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator, provided an overview of the final draft of the park wet field cancellation policy.

Patrick Murphy moved, seconded by Fred Parker, to approve the final draft of the park wet field cancellation policy.

DRAFT 2019 BUDGET UPDATES

Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director, provided several budget updates. Highlights from the R&P request included:

- Commissioners of St. Mary's County held a budget work session on February 27th.
- Requests: Utility vehicles for the waterfront parks; a beach cleaning machine; additional funding for athletic field turf management.
- Hourly staff training will begin in the near future. Training will be provided in areas of customer service, cash handling, addressing conflict, risk management, usage guidelines and First Aid/CPR.
- Staff is working with the Dept. of Information Technology to obtain radios for County parks for Emergency Services connectivity.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Shepherd provided an update on several Capital Projects, which included:

- Sports Complex – Funding is proposed for feasibility study in FY2020; design in FY2021 and construction in FY2023 and FY2025.
- Shannon Farm – Master planning is proposed for FY2019; design and engineering in FY2020 and development in FY2024. Caroline King stated she has been asked by citizens about public access to Shannon Farm Park. Mr. Shepherd stated that while there has been some discussion on that, it's a very different property than Snow Hill. Access, parking and pathway development all need to be considered.
- Three Notch Trail – An MOU between Community Bank of the Chesapeake and the CSMC for cleaning of the trail will be presented on March 20th. A briefing on potential Phase Seven realignments will also be presented that day.
- Skatepark – The skatepark is now 14 years old and renovations and design improvements are planned for FY2020.
- Nicolet Park Entrance – The Nicolet Park entrance bid opening is scheduled for March 8th and it is anticipated the project will begin sometime this spring. Basketball court upgrades at Nicolet Park will be completed this spring.
- Carver Recreation Center – The CSMC will consider a budget amendment on March 6th for ADA restroom upgrades at Carver Recreation Center.
- Snow Hill Park – The CSMC will hear a proposed plan of action for Snow Hill on March 6th. Anticipate: Hours of operation Monday – Friday, 4:00 p.m. until closing (normally about 8:00 p.m.) and on weekends from 8:00 a.m. until closing; no fees would be charged Monday – Friday, however, hourly staff will be on site; pavilion rentals and soft waterfront launch on Roslyn Creek; and potential horseback riding and trails.
- Fifth District Park Playground – The new playground at Fifth District Park is expected to be installed this spring.

OTHER BUSINESS

Weicks Playground - Chairperson Caroline King provided an update on the Wieck Playground project. Community members were invited to attend the final committee meeting. Additional input was received and taken into consideration for the design. The final rendering was received today and is anticipated to be accepted in the near future. The hope is the equipment can be ordered and installed later this spring or by early summer.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2018. A report on Inclusion Services is anticipated to be presented during the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on April 5, 2018.