

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2020

Those present at the meeting were:

PRAB MEMBERS: Vicki Paulas, Laurie Dalziel, Leigh Dillon, Commissioner Jim Moran, Paul Lombardo, and Phil Starkey.

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF: Nancy Scozzari, Mike Watson, Robbie Blackiston, Joan Brooks, James Wood and Breanne Waters.

Approval of August 2020 PRAB Minutes

Motion to approve: Phil Starkey and Vicki Paulas

General Discussion

- Paul wanted to know if we had a design of the South Island Trail Extension to show the residents and who should reach out to the landowners to place easements?
 - Nancy states that we
- Mosquitos at Batts Neck are terrible: Mike states that the county cannot spray for them it is handled by MD Dept of Agriculture.
- Pickleball tournament held at Mowbray Park
 - The tournament did not contact Parks to rent the courts, nor did they pay.
 - Pickleball players in general, believe they should not have to pay because they were county residents.
- Hand made Detour signs need to be replaced.
- Paul commented on the over growing crab grass, vines and limbs that need to be trimmed along the Cross-Island Trail. Piles of branches along the trail, poor drainage at various areas, lot of erosion by Stevensville Library portion of trail.
- Flashing Traffic Lights at Kent Narrows Way North and Love Point Road, by the high school, cost is \$35,000 each all inclusive.
 - KI Rotary is looking for a project so maybe some funding can come from them.
- Phragmites around the new boardwalk need to be sprayed, cost per Nancy will be around \$17-20,000 in the fall. Maybe run thru there twice a year.
- Repairing Cross Island Trail- still waiting on the engineer, study should be complete by the first week in the October, repair by the end of December.

Public Landings

- Tidal Wetlands License – obtained in January 2020
 - Permit Modification to include town slips and transient docking area approved at Sept 2nd MD-BPW meeting. Mitigation proposal to remove phragmites on wetlands portion of Town of Centreville lots across Watson Road. Town provided a letter of support and assurance mitigation area would remain a tidal wetland.
- US Army Corp of Engineers permit expected soon and is holding up Corsica Dredging project. Engineering consultant is inquiring daily about status. Delay relates to permit formatting

changes unrelated to project, limited staffing, COVID leave policies and federal end of fiscal year on Sep. 30.

- Dredge Material Placement Site (DMPS) remediation began in January to remove old dredge material and place in adjacent crop field. Earthwork and related tasks completed in July.
- Temporary easements to place pipe on private property obtained for four properties.
- Project is expected to take about a month and be completed well before Feb 15, 2021 permit deadline.
- Pipe is to be delivered and assembled beginning on Wednesday, Sept 23.
- New hours and Rates and Matapeake and Romancoke Fishing Piers.
 - Sunrise to Sunset
 - \$2.50 per hour, per vehicle
- Staff is now required to open and close gates at fishing piers.
- Part-time contractual staff advises patrons about the changes and rules of parks. Part-time staff also provides a detail report of their shift each day.
- Sunken boat at Kent Narrows removed on Sept. 3 by MD DNR abandoned boat program.
- Cost and logistics sought for security cameras at Kent Narrows.
- Received \$15,000 FY 2021 Sanitary Service Grant to pay for Porta Johns at Landings.
- FY 2022 MD DNR Capital Grants due Oct 9th, our #1 Priority will be Crumpton Landing.

Parks and Resource Planning – Nancy Scozzari

- We were awarded the DNR Trust Fund Grant, which provides trees in 5 of our Parks (BHNP, White Marsh, Golf Course- Driving Range, Batts Neck, and Grasonville Park).
- Brambles getting ready to pave Batts Neck Park
- Almost finished with the plantings along Piney Narrows Road.
- Trees marked on the approach to the drawbridge to be removed. More appropriate trees will be planted.
- Opioid awareness trail – benches language not approved yet. Hope to be completed next month.
- LPPRP- one new facet this year is that we must include the municipalities, this could mean we might have to start sharing POS money with them. We would like to use PRAB as part of our public outreach along with surveys to the public.
 - Completion of the LPPRP makes us eligible for POS money

Recreation and League Update – Joan Brooks

- Total Gross Revenue for Turf Rentals this fiscal year \$33,712.50 (\$29,662.50 field use fees, \$4,050 light fees) of which \$13,456.25 is from Out of County Residents.
 - The revenue does not include staffing cost, or lighting expense.
- Total number of organizations that requested to use our Turf fields: 14 (10 in-county, 4 out of county)
 - 9 Lacrosse
 - 2 Field Hockey
 - 2 Football
 - 1 Soccer
- Total hours used by Recreation Programs: 95 hours
- Outside Leagues Fall 2020
 - Total Organizations that submitted Fall Field use requests: 13
 - Total teams: 205 Total participants: 2,300
 - Total Fields in Use: 59
 - 14 Ball Diamonds 6 Field Hockey

- 31 Soccer
 - 3 Beach Volleyball
 - 1 Lacrosse
- 3 Flag Football
- 1 Football
- We have opened our facility rentals.
- Recreation basketball could be postponed if the schools do not open back up.

Parks Update – Robbie Blackiston

- Advised Carla Pullen of our PRAB meetings so that she can attend, (Sid Pinders replacement from the BOE).
- Dog Park- water upgrades, wood chip upgrades, and tree trimmings.
- Sudlersville, Pinkney and Round Top Parks completed wrapping all the pavilions and park sheds in metal.
- Will be working on Batts Neck next on wrapping in metal, then Route 18.
- Crumpton Park/Shop area was tarred and chipped. Working on Crumpton Nature area next.
- Received quotes for OLP and Pinkney Park basketball court, hops, poles and lining. Looking at October for them to complete the paving.
- Round Top will be the next basketball court to be paved.
- Cracked sealed the hockey rink.
- New Playground will be installed at Riverside.
- Second round of school landscaping being installed.
- 2 Rangers hired, one quit withing 2 day. A replacement has been hired and will start Sept 30
- Beach Season over- Parks staff worked every other weekend to help with crowd control
 - Overtime cost was not in our Budget.
 - Preparing a plan for next year, need funding for overtime, or pay for parking machines.
 - Rules and regulations are least obeyed by QA residents.
 - Need to re-brand Terrapin and Ferry Point as Nature Parks not Beaches.
- Trash Detail is extended till first weekend in November.

Continuing Business

- Batts Neck Paving Project- Approved with funds coming from Capital Project and County Funds
- Converting money from Davidson Project (\$450,000 and POS Money) to a new Project, Terrapin Ranger Station and Restroom Facilities (\$125,000 is County Funded)
 - Looking at a modular facility that is concrete, self-contained due to vandalism.
 - Would possibly have a men's, women's, and rangers' pod
 - Have the pods set up so that visitors must walk thru to provide an accurate head count on how many people are entering the park.
- CARES purchase request at next Commissioners Meeting is for two ATV's for rangers.

New Business

- PRAB subcommittee for Artificial Turf Fees
 - Paul and Phil volunteer
 - Need to look at fees being charge
 - Determine how to charge businesses and organizations, where out of county residents are the main members of the teams.
 - Evaluate costs of turf fields in other areas
- PRAB Subcommittee for Park attendants (Terrapin, Ferry Point and Matapeake)

- Vicki Volunteered
- Suggestions: Hire Part-Time employees, Develop restrictions, Rebranding the Nature Parks, Monitoring on more than just the weekends, Bring permits back (make it a line item on county residents tax bill)?
- If permits are brought back it needs to be pointed out that just because you have a permit does not guarantee you entrance, you still would have to wait in line.
- You can charge out of county residents the same as county residents, but you can not turn out of county residents away because parks were purchased with POS money.
- Next PRAB Meeting October 19, 2020

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Jim Moran Laurie Dalziel

Action Items:	Assigned To:
If you could read page 32-35 of LPPRP, goals and recommendation of this department.	PRAB Members
Bring a minimum number on what the turf field needs to cost to include staffing and lighting expense, in order to turn a profit.	Joan
Need volunteers for PRAB Subcommittee for Park Attendants.	PRAB Members
Capital Project Suggestions email Steve or Mike.	PRAB Members
If you would like to renew your term as a PRAB member please email Lynda.	Paul, Phil and Linda
Will address the easements for the South Island Trail Extension with Steve and County Administrator.	Jim
Jim would like a cost for a new Pickleball court.	Mike
Jim would like a budget to spray the new boardwalk twice a year.	Steve
Paul would like a layout of the South Island Trail Extension plan when ready.	Steve / Nancy