

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Department of Recreation and Parks
7120 Oakland Mills Road
Conference Room #1 & #2
Columbia, MD 21046

Members Present:

Dave Grabowski, Chair, Ed Coleman, Co-Chair; Herman Charity; Jen Mallo; Chloe McGeehan

Staff Present:

Raul Delerme, Director; Michael H. Milani, Bureau Chief of Administrative Services; Nicola Morgal, Bureau Chief of Recreation; Robert T. Linz, Acting Bureau Chief of Capital Projects, Park Planning and Construction; Ryan Etter, Recording Secretary

Call to Order:

Mr. Grabowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments

Approval of October Minutes:

Minutes were approved unanimously

Director's Report:

- Dave Grabowski and Ed Coleman re-elected as Chair and Co-Chair for the Advisory Board
- Student term ends in July
 - Chloe McGeehan will reach out to find interest for next student member
- Bob Linz and Mike Milani filled in while the Director was out
- Leadership Premier Class
 - Facility Tour on November 16
 - Toured B&O Museum, Blandair Park Laura's Place and Troy Park

Bureau of Parks: (Presented by Bob Linz and Mike Milani):

- Zone 1 has taken care of a lot of graffiti at Savage Park
- Zone 2 electricians were on site at Centennial Park to run electricity to the Lightning Alert System
- Zone 3 Schooley Mill Park planted 16 new trees around the cricket fields
- Zone 4 Rockburn Branch Park have completed 1,400 feet of trail realignment
- EAAA Haunted Experience at Rockburn Park went very well
- Zone 5 continuing maintaining landscape beds and playgrounds at Blandair Park
- Field renovations at various school locations
- 5,600 trees are being planted this fall as part of reforestation program
- 67 deer have been harvested so far this season
- Park Rangers have been great with all the different tournaments throughout the parks

Bureau of Capital Projects, Park Planning and Construction:

- **Centennial Park North Playground-** The playground has been completed. Jason Thompson is working with the stakeholder group in designing the sensory trail area that will connect to the playground.
- **Haviland Mill Trail-** The helical pier installation has been going well. Boardwalk framing, and decking is underway. We are working with the contractors to secure a stone wall contractor.
- **Sports Court Resurfacing-** Work will resume in late spring through summer for: Centennial Park West tennis resurfacing, Centennial Park West basketball overlay with new posts, backboards and rims, Meadowbrook Park basketball court overlay, Meadowbrook Park tennis court resurfacing, pickleball blended lines at North Laurel, High Ridge and Atholton Parks, Roger Carter Community Center basketball court lines, Lisbon and Western Regional Parks tennis court renovations.
- **Symphony Woods Park Plateau-** We are nearing design completion to grade and widen the plateau below the white house in preparation to place the Wine in the Woods Festival VIP tent in that location to reduce our footprint in the woods. The work will be completed prior to the wine festival.

- **Centennial Park South Lower Area-** The South Lower ADA parking project has begun. An ADA parking facility will be constructed in front of the restroom facility, wooden retaining walls will be replaced with engineered block walls, the pathway will be renovated to accessible standards and at a 10' width from the boat launch to the amphitheater. We anticipate receiving proposals for replacing the upper decking, railings and seating in the month of December. The area will be closed to the public and a detour installed. The project is anticipated to take 5-6 months to complete.
- **Waverly Mansion-** Maryland Historic Trust has responded to our application for changes and additions to the site. We are gathering information for the response. Caitlin Chamberlain is checking with them on the items that did not receive comments to see if we can place supply orders since delivery times have been pushed out on many construction items. We will reach out to BGE about the parking lot light pole and electric pole relocation requests. We anticipate site work to be completed prior to spring weddings.
- **Barnard Fort House-** The design has been submitted to the Historic Commission for their review.
- **Patapsco Female Institute Historic Park -** We are working with AECOM and the Bureau of Facilities to get the project design moving forward.
- **DNR Program Open Space (POS) -** The Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure applications were approved by Maryland Bureau of Public Works on November 3, 2021. Bryan Moody has developed and sent the Annual Program for POS to Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR). We have received HS#14 needs at Troy Park from the Howard County Public School System and have sent it to MD DNR the week of November 8, 2021 for review for assessment of POS conversion requirements.
- **Belmont Station Bridge-** The bridge has been set and construction staff are installing removable bollards at each end of the bridge, along with rough grading at the approaches. Decking and rails will follow in the near future. Paving of the approaches is scheduled within the next 3 weeks.
- **Land Preservation Parks & Recreation Plan-** Weekly meetings and physical promotions continue through the Howard County Public School System, Recreational Licensed Child care and in the parks.
- **Font Hill Wetlands Park-** We have received and approved Ecotone's proposal for design and construction of the stream bank stabilization that

will pick up where the last project left off. The anticipated project start date will be late Summer/Fall 2022. The wood truss bridge will be replaced with a fiberglass bridge this fiscal year.

- **Centennial Park East Area-** A section of the stream below the dam is nearing the East area parking lot. Ecotone is designing the bank protection and we hope to perform the work prior to March 2022. Once the work has been completed, we will schedule the repaving of the East Area.
- **Huntington Park Improvements-** Paul Walsky is resubmitting the Environmental Concept Plan with geotechnical report for review. Once the plan is approved, he will be resubmitting the project plans for permit review. We anticipate beginning the project Spring/Summer 2022. The project consists of additional pathways, outdoor basketball courts, a backstop and water fountain.
- **Dugout Covers-** Hammond Park dugout covers and bench pads will be completed in the next 2 weeks, the ADA pathway installation should be completed by the end of November. Schooley Mill Park and Cedar Lane Park installations will follow.
- **Belmont Manor and Historic Park-** We are working with Belmont staff, and will be submitting an application to Maryland Historic Trust to improve exterior lighting in several areas of the manor walkways and grounds. We will also be looking at improving the maintenance access path that continues to wash out, along with wooden fence replacements this fiscal year. Heritage Construction coordinated the installation of additional road shoulder stone along the main drive and replaced a manhole behind the Carriage House.
- **Blandair Park-** We will be removing the soil stockpile this Fall/Spring in preparation for the bridge and pathway installation next fiscal year. Phase 6 is currently in design through WRA. Spohn Ranch is working on the skatepark design and will be conducting virtual discussion sessions with community skaters in the near future. We anticipate going to construction Fall/Winter 2022.
- **Centennial Park Pavilion Renovations-** Heritage Construction has started siding replacement at pavilion E. We have received siding proposals for Pavilions D and H and await one additional proposal for cedar siding at pavilion D. We will be approving the proposal for pavilion H this week and anticipate the work being completed by April 30, 2022.

- **Rockburn Park Disc Golf-** The entry plaza has been completed along with stone lettering.
- **Savage Park Playground-** Construction staff will be installing the playground benches this week.
- **Cedar Lane Press Box Stairs-** Stair renovation work is scheduled to begin next week.
- **East Columbia Library Site-** We are working with the Howard Hughes Corporation on an acquisition effort for the property through Department of Public Works and Real Estate Services.
- **McTague Property Route 108-** We are facilitating the swap of the McTague property for Centennial Park property for the SHA intersection project HO14951.
- **General Plan/CAPRA Review-** Bryan Moody has reviewed the 390-page General Plan Draft. He has also reviewed CAPRA sections 2,5 and 9 drafts and evidence. Jeff Hull has been working on evidence for CAPRA.
- **South Branch Park-** Masonry repointing and repairs have been made at the Apple Butter warehouse.
- **Wine Festival-** Dawn has created the festival map and logistics planning has begun.
- **Fleet-** Dawn Poholsky has been working with Fleet on vehicle and equipment purchases and verifications. She has also taken care of surplus verification/change requests and revised equipment module records and completed a Fleet audit.
- **GIS & Infrastructure Support-** Dawn Poholsky has been working on the following projects: updating kiosk and website maps, NRPA's website for Park Metric 2021 data entry, bridge inventory, records retention, MS4 data submission.
- **FY23 CIP Budget-** The Administrative version of the CIP budget has been submitted. We are working on the CIP budget presentation for next month's public meeting.

Bureau of Recreation:

- RLC Staffing
 - have hired 15, still short 47
- 1400 children on Recreational Licensed Child care waitlist
- Virtual LERN Conference
 - November 15-19, 2021

- Available to all staff
- Wine in the Woods 2022
 - May 21-22, 2022
 - Had first big meeting
- Leadership Howard County: Life Long Learning Day
 - TR team
 - Tour of Robinson Nature Center
 - Archery Demonstrations
 - Yoga sessions
 - Square Dancing
- Started planning for 2022 camp season
 - Working with school system
- Harriet Tubman Building Planning
 - Had a site visit for programmers

Bureau of Administrative Services:

- Starting the operating budget process

Student Member Update:

- Future Doctors of America at River Hill High School at first day of event focus on Opioids
 - Park Ranger Kanagie came out to talk about how to help victims
- Discussing having a Suicide Prevention 5k race
 - Still trying to figure out date and time
 - Most likely Spring


Old Business:

No Old Business

New Business:

- Bollman Bridge Savage lighting on December 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Ellicott City tree lighting will be held on December 3, 2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Menorah lighting on December 3, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

Mr. Grabowski made the motion to adjourn the meeting. A second motion was made by Mr. Coleman. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.



Dave Grabowski, Chairperson



Raul Delerme, Executive Secretary

