

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
September 28, 2011**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Samuel Case, Joseph Cook, Brad Knatz, Jim Rodriguez, and Lewis Baylor

Members Excused: Colin Furneaux, Gary Davis, Bobbi Tucker, Sarah Hund-Brown, and Walter Schemm Jr.

Members Absent: Hernan Padilla

Staff Present: Bruce Dutterer, Abby Gruber, Loren Lustig, and Chelcee Fandel

Guests: Curtis Rhoten, Troy Staub, Ken Whalen, Chris Henneman, Carolyn Garber, Joseph Zentgraf, Bob Jenkins, Joe Belinko, Ed Beane, Pete Berggren, Mike Hernandez and Wind O'Neal

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on September 28th, 2011 in the Public Hearing Room at the Carroll County Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairperson Brad Knatz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the July 13th meeting were not reviewed & approved as the Board was not quorum.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Fall Festivals** - Rainy weather on Saturday contributed to a smaller than usual crowd this year at The Maryland Wine Festival that was held at the Carroll County Farm Museum with a little over 10,000 paid admissions on Saturday and about half that amount on Sunday. Due to all of the rain and very limited parking, this year's Monarch Madness Festival at Hashawha Environmental Center was cancelled. However, we did have Monarch Butterfly related activities at the Nature Center that day and good visitation. It was a little muddy but a very nice day with over 2,500 people attending Piney Run's annual Apple Festival. This weekend features Fall Harvest Days at the Farm Museum, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 5pm.
- **Capital Projects Update** – The sidewalk extension and trail construction at the Farm Museum and Landon C. Burns Park has been completed. As a part of the project, the front section of fencing at the Farm Museum has also been replaced. We are looking at some additional landscaping, park benches and a single table pavilion at Landon C. Burns Park with any remaining funds, plus donations to the Park Legacy Fund that we have received. Trail paving is complete at Bennett Cerf Park and construction has begun this week on the renovations to the first bridge.
- **Concussion Awareness** – We participated in a partnership with the Carroll Hospital Center, Carroll County Public Schools, Health Department and Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County

to promote awareness of the symptoms and dangers of concussions in youth sports. We are working with our recreation councils regarding the distribution of information at the time of registration.

- **Park Legacy Fund** - We have received a total of \$4,241 in donations thus far, some earmarked for specific projects such as Bennett Cerf and Landon Burns, and others for general use. We have also received a commitment from Random House to donate funds for a park bench and signage along the new trail in the approximate amount of \$3,000. Next, we will be targeting recreation council volunteers and program participants to encourage planned giving such as “Donations in lieu of flower”, will and beneficiaries.
- **40th Anniversary** – Plans are set for the event Friday, October 7th at 7pm at Winters Mill High School. Approximately 150 former Board members and Volunteers of the Year recipients have RSVP’d so far. We will have the premiere of the 40th Anniversary video and comments from all five Recreation and Parks directors. The 40th Anniversary Crab Feast is on Saturday, October 8th from 6pm to 10pm at the Freedom Optimist Community Center.
- **Annual Report** – We have completed the 2011 Annual Report and copies will be available at our office and our major park facilities as well as the County Office Building.

SELF-HELP PROJECT REQUESTS:

- *Westminster Recreation Council- Presented by Chris Henneman*
Westminster Optimist Little League is requesting a new scoreboard for the field at Bennett Cerf Park. The current scoreboard is over 15 years old and is out dated. Each year, they make repairs to it to allow it to continue working.
Total project cost: \$7,760.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,660.00; County Funds: \$6,100.00
- *Charles Carroll Recreation Council*
A requested was submitted by Talara Kumrow for a storage building at Cherrytown field, but no one was present for the request of the project.
- *Equestrian Council- Presented by Joe Zentgraf and Carolyn Garber*
The Equestrian Council is requesting repairs and refurbishing of the “Biddison Building” at the Equestrian Center. This building is used by renters and as an office and is enjoyed by spectators as well. The description of the work includes: new siding, sliding door, and entry door, trim on the doors, windows, re-working of 4 windows, weather stripping, soffit on the gable ends, as well as aluminum to cover fascia.
Total project cost: \$3,025.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$616.00; County Funds: \$2,409.00
- *Freedom Area Recreation Council- Presented by Ken Whalen*
Freedom Softball is requesting 16 loads of ball field mix for Hodges Park and Eldersburg Elementary School fields. It will take about two loads per field. This will keep the fields safe and playable.
Total project cost: \$8,640.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2,108.00; County Funds: \$6,532.00
- *North Carroll Recreation Council- Presented by Michael Hernandez*
North Carroll Hotshots is requesting that the ball fields at Hampstead Elementary School be leveled. They are also requesting a softball pitching machine for the organization. Leveling the fields will

make them safer and allow them to host teams that visit the community. The pitching machine will help improve the player's skills.

Total project cost: \$6,193.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,548.00; County Funds: \$4,645.00

- *West Carroll Recreation Council- Presented by Troy Staub*

West Carroll's Baseball program is requesting 40 tons of field conditioner to the West Carroll fields located in New Windsor and Union Bridge. The fields are used by 10 teams, 6 days a week, and 5 travel teams on Sundays and used by All-Star Teams June-July.

Total project cost: \$2,540.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$530.00; County Funds: \$2,010.00

- *West Carroll Recreation Council- Presented by Curtis Rhoten*

The FSK Jr. Eagle Wrestling Organization is requesting a new wrestling mat that will be stored and located at FSK High School and used by many Carroll County Recreation teams. The mats are currently 10 years old and older. They are starting to fall apart and most likely are not up to code due to the age and condition of them.

Total project cost: \$9,850.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2,462.00; County Funds: \$7,388.00

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council- Two projects presented by Bob Jenkins*

The first request presented by Westminster Area Lacrosse is for grass seed and to over-seed the existing multi-use fields at Kate Wagner Park and the track field located at East Middle School. The multi use fields will benefit from the aeration and seeding, ensuring continued playability at the fields throughout the year.

Total project cost: \$1,080.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$165.00; County Funds: \$915.00

The second request presented by Westminster Area Lacrosse is the purchase of a locking storage container for use at the Kate Wagner Fields. This will allow storage of the goals, nets, as well as equipment, thereby extending the useful life of the items.

Total project cost: \$3,010.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$752.00; County Funds: \$2,258.00

- *Winfield Recreation Council- Four projects presented by Pete Berggren*

The first request presented by Winfield Baseball is to remove and replace the wire on the backstop on field #4 at Mayeski Park. The existing wire has pulled away from the structure and can not be safely reattached. This is making it unsafe for foul balls and anyone near the backstop.

Total project cost: \$1,442.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$317.00; County Funds: \$1,125.00

The second request presented by Winfield Baseball is to develop a new 90' baseball diamond at Linton Spring Elementary School. There is currently no existing field, only a backstop.

Total project cost: \$1,800.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$275.00; County Funds: \$1,525.00

The third request presented by Winfield Baseball is to remove and replace the wire on the backstop at the Lions Club field. The existing wire has pulled away from the structure and can not be safely reattached. This is making it unsafe for foul balls and anyone near the backstop.

Total project cost: \$1,542.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$342.00; County Funds: \$1,200.00

The fourth request presented by Winfield Baseball is to add the "hood" to the existing backstop on field # 1 and onto the new 90' ball diamond at multi purpose field # 4 at Linton Springs Elementary School. The existing backstop has no overhead hood protection which is dangerous during a game with foul balls going into the crowd.

Total project cost: \$9,800.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2,362.00; County Funds: \$7,438.00

- *Winfield Recreation Council- Two projects presented by Dave Becker*

The first request presented by the Winfield Softball Youth Organization is to replace the 3rd base dug-out to the softball field # 3 at Mayeski Park. The existing concrete slab shifted and broke creating a safety hazard to participants. Repairing the slab will provide a safe playing environment.

Total project cost: \$2,140.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$517.00; County Funds: \$1,623.00

The second request by the Winfield Softball Youth Organization is to add ball mix to the softball fields at Mayeski Park. Every year, between the wind and rain, the ball mix on the softball fields at Mayeski Park gets blown or washed away.

Total project cost: \$4,500.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,090.00; County Funds: \$3,410.00

- *Winfield Recreation Council- Presented by Joe Belinko*

The boys and girls lacrosse and soccer programs and Century High School boys and girls programs are requesting an athletic wall that would be located on the ridge by practice fields between Linton Springs Elementary and Century High School. It would be used by all recreation and high school teams, primarily for lacrosse and soccer, both boys and girls. It would allow an approved space designed to accommodate student athletes that could be used year round.

Total project cost: \$7,000.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,750.00; County Funds: \$5,250.00

Mr. Brad Knatz thanked everyone for coming out and for their time putting together their presentations.

Mr. Degitz explained that the requests will go to the Capital Committee for recommendations and voted on by the full Board at their October meeting and, then, to the County Commissioners for their recommendation. The process should be completed by mid-November. \$67,000.00 is available for Self-Help projects this fiscal year and the projects requested tonight total \$56,203.00 in County funds.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Abby Gruber wanted to thank Bob Jenkins with Westminster Area Lacrosse for all of his hard work on the Lax Max Tournament.

Ms. Gruber also wanted to mention the Columbus Classic Travel Soccer Tournament that is to take place on October 8th and 9th. With 130 teams currently registered, they are expecting at least 150. Thanks to everyone who is coming out and working and helping to make this event happen.

On a motion by Brad Knatz, seconded by Joe Cook, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Administrator

Chelcee M. L. Fandel

Chelcee M. L. Fandel, Secretary