

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
September 24, 2014**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Brad Knatz, Mike Rodgers, Judy Baker, Brian Clancy, Jim Rodriguez, John Marks, Carolyn Garber, and Derek Ludlow

Members Excused: Colin Furneaux and Bobbi Tucker

Staff Present: Bruce Dutterer, Lisa Carroll, and Katy Casey

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on September 24, 2014 at the County Office Building's public hearing room 003/004. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by board chair Judy Baker.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Carolyn Garber moved to approve the July 23rd, 2014 meeting minutes, John Marks seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Trail Project Updates:**
 - **Landon C Burns Trail Extension** — not approved for RTP funds; will revisit in future
 - **Westminster Community Trail** —TAP grants status still in limbo; intersection with sidewalk at Sunshine Way contracted and should be completed soon
 - **Gov. Frank Brown Trail**— Carroll County awarded \$131,600 in Maryland Bikeways Funds to be used for this project; will be meeting with Commissioners to accept grant award in coming weeks

- **Capital Project Update:**
 - **Leister Park**—Additional parking lot completed; County still trying to resolve issues with contractor regarding trail construction
 - **Westminster Community Pond** — construction continuing throughout end of calendar year; target reopening next spring
 - **Krimgold Park**—construction ongoing; may need to extend anticipated completion date beyond 12/31/14 — no change

- **Westminster Veterans Memorial Park**— second public meeting held last week with draft concepts presented; next step is develop one plan based on feedback and begin review process for Planning Commission; construction funding available July 2015
- **FY 2015 Park Renovation Projects** — new siding and roof for Piney Run Nature Center; pavilion replacement at Hashawha; pavilion roof repairs at Hashawha; Landon Burns Park walkway addition; replace basketball backboards at Sandymount and Deer Park
- **Artificial Turf Field Committee**: Several meetings have been held and basic framework for recommended plan being developed
- **Upcoming Events**:
 - Piney Run Apple Festival 9/27/2014 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
 - Volunteer of the year Thursday 11/6/2014 7:00 pm at the Robert Moton Center

SELF-HELP PROJECT REQUESTS:

- *Central Carroll Recreation Council- Presented by Robert Freter*

Robert Freter is requesting an electric scoreboard to be installed at Magin Field in Deer Park.

This will allow spectators to see the scores as well as improve the general look of the park.

Total project cost: \$13,300.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$3273.00; County Funds: \$10,027.00

The second project is for the purchase of ball diamond mix for fields at Roaring Run. Roaring Run is frequently used by Finksburg Baseball and this soil will be a part of their annual repair and maintenance.

Total project cost: \$6,072.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,343.00; County Funds: \$4,729.00

The third project is for the purchase of ball diamond mix for fields at Sandymount Park and Deer Park. Over time the dirt erodes and creates unsafe playing conditions.

Total project cost: \$9,108.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2,102.00; County Funds: \$7,006.00

The fourth project is for the purchase of nets for soccer goals

Total project cost: \$2,528.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$493.00; County Funds: \$2,035.00

- *North Carroll Recreation Council – Presented by Jeffrey Howard*

Jeffrey Howard is requesting 75 tons of ball diamond mix for the Cape Horn Park fields. This will increase diamond's playability and alleviate puddles.

Total project cost: \$2,475.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$409.00; County Funds: \$2,066.00

The second project is for 75 tons of ball diamond mix at the 'C & D' baseball diamonds at Christmas Tree Park. This will increase diamond's playability and alleviate puddles.

Total project cost: \$2,475.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$409.00; County Funds: \$2,066.00

The third project is for 75 tons of ball diamond mix at Manchester Elementary. This will increase diamond's playability and alleviate puddles.

Total project cost: \$2,475.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$409.00; County Funds: \$2,066.00

- *North Carroll Recreation Council– Presented By Todd Calhoun*

Todd Calhoun is requesting a walking trail that will connect Lions Club Park and the Leister Park walking trail. This will create a safe and practical way for families to easily access parking, picnic areas, recreation areas, and restroom facilities at Lions Club Park.

Total project cost: \$14,065.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$3,516.00; County Funds: \$10,549.00

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council- Presented by Butch Adams*

Butch Adams is requesting to have a 70 foot baseball field at Gateway School. A 70 foot field will greatly benefit 10-12 year old youth players that are not yet ready to use a 90 foot field.

Total project cost: \$15,000.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$3,225.00; County Funds: \$11,775.00

- *Westminster Area Recreation Council- Presented by Herb Eyler*

Herb Eyler is requesting a replacement for a 12X12 electrical shed which has become a safety issue due to leaking and deterioration. He is also requesting an additional 12X16 storage shed due to the fact that their existing shed is full and more equipment needs to be stored.

Total project cost: \$8,000.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,930.00; County Funds: \$6,070.00

- *Winfield Recreation Council- Presented by Peter Berggren*

Peter Berggren is requesting the purchase of 8 loads (120 tons) of ball diamond mix for Mayeski Park's 4 softball and 2 baseball fields. The ball diamond mix will help to repair the fields which are currently a safety issue for players

Total project cost: \$4,725.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$831.00; County Funds: \$3,894.00

The second project request is for a renovation of the backstop at South Carroll High School. The existing backstop's size is not adequate and unsafe for spectators and will save money for the council by stopping balls that are currently getting lost in the woods.

Total project cost: \$11,733.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2671.00; County Funds: \$9062.00

The board unanimously voted to approve all projects

SELF-HELP POLICY CHANGE DISCUSSION:

Wording for eligible sites will be changed to 'Self-help funds may also be used on quasi-public property such as Jaycees, Lions Club community parks IF these sites are open to the public and provide recreational benefits to the general community or provide program benefits to the County's recreation councils'. This change will also remove wording that self-help funds may not be utilized on quasi-public property.

Derek Ludlow motions to approve change if it includes a list of approved locations, which will aid recreation councils' decisions on which requests to pursue. Jim Rodriguez seconds, all concurred and the change was approved.

CIP UPDATE:

At the regular July meeting, the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board voted unanimously to forward CIP recommendations to Management & Budget. Management & Budgets' preliminary recommendations are listed below.

- FY 2016 Add new (and previously requested) project of Bear Branch NC playground (Management and Budget recommends 2017)
Keep WVMP funding as currently listed
- FY 2017 Add new project for Sports Complex lighting (Management and Budget recommends 2018)
Keep Deer Park Tennis & Basketball Court Resurfacing as currently listed
Keep Sandymount Park Tennis & Basketball Court Replacement as currently listed
- FY 2018 Move existing project for Double Pipe Creek boat ramp up 1 year to 2018
Keep Bark Hill Park improvements as currently listed
Keep Sports Complex overlay as currently listed
- FY 2019 Move existing project Gillis Falls Trail Phase I up 1 year to 2019
- FY 2020 Add new Leister Park Phase II project
- FY 2021 Add Gillis Falls Trail Phase II project

The Advisory Board also recommended increasing the average funding for Park Restoration for the next 5 years from 100,000 to \$150,000 to keep up with the maintenance of infrastructure, a conservative total that is still well below the Management & Budget estimate of \$247,000 annually. The Board did not make any recommendations for changes from the existing plan regarding the annual amounts for Tot Lot Replacement or Community Self Help. Management & Budget has not commented on this recommendation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Jeff Degitz mentioned the next advisory board meeting will be held at Piney Run Park on October 22, 2014 with lunch being served at 12:30 pm and the meeting will be held at 1:30pm. He asked the board to please check their calendars and let us know early if you will be attending as a count is needed for kitchen staff.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Judy Baker and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Administrator

Katy Casey

Katy Casey, Secretary