

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
February 24, 2016**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Judy Baker, Mike Rodgers, Carolyn Garber, Derek Ludlow, Tom Long

Members Excused: Jim Rodriguez, Tony Rosas, Sue Ruppert, Brian Clancy and John Marks

Members Absent: Brad Knatz

Staff Present: Candy Sharrer, Ric Buchanan and Lisa Carroll

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on February 24, 2016 at the County Office Building's public hearing room 003/004. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by board vice chair Derek Ludlow.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The October 28, 2015 meeting minutes were not approved at this time due to the lack of a quorum.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Krimgold Park:** The Ribbon cutting was held December 3, 2015. The local fundraising effort for the playground has risen over \$45,000 thus far with additional contributions received in Park Legacy Fund including \$5,000 from Winfield Rec. Council. Use of the three athletic fields begins March 15.
- **School Closing Issues:** The BOE is moving ahead with closure of Charles Carroll Elementary, New Windsor Middle and North Carroll High School (appeals pending). The County is currently working with BOE staff in attempt to try to facilitate outdoor usage beyond the end of school year. Future of the buildings to be determined.
- **Department of Planning Bicycle Pedestrian Survey:** The Department of Planning is looking for public input regarding bicycle/pedestrian facilities in county. Please spread the word and complete survey (given out at meeting).
- **Volunteer Background Checks:** Vendor and contract approved and we have begun processing background checks beginning with spring sports programs. A special thanks to Lisa Carroll for all of her efforts.
- **Lightning Alert Systems:** Systems being installed at county high schools and at Hashawha (for Outdoor School). County looking to piggyback on notification system so that rec. council programs can receive notification as well as nearby sites. A special thanks to Jim Rodriguez for all of his efforts.
- **Westminster Community Trail Update:** State has notified us that no funds are needed for right of way due to final layout of MD 27 trail. We will be requesting permission to utilize funds to construct the trail connection from Westminster Community Pond to adjacent Commerce Center and eventually to adjacent Autumn Ridge neighborhood with 200 homes.

- **Hap Baker Firearms Facility:** Conducting month long survey regarding wait times and usage patterns.
- **Parks Ordinance Changes:** Proposed changes to Parks Ordinance shared with Commissioners last week. A public hearing/comment and vote anticipated by the end of March.
- **Program Open Space Trust Fund Act of 2016 (HB 1464/SB 0927):** Proposed bill calls for 1) repayment in full of funds diverted from Program Open Space (POS) in 2016, 2) repayment of \$42 million for 2017 budget, 3) cancels previous authorization to divert funds again in 2018 with POS to be once again fully cash funded and 4) redirects payment of \$90 million statutorily owed to POS from 2006 with \$45 million to go to POS in FY 2019, resulting in additional POS funding to Carroll County

SELF-HELP PROJECT REQUESTS:

- *Charles Carroll Recreation Council – Presented by Darlene Sadowski*
Darlene is requesting 2 sets of soccer goals for the Soccer Program. The current goals are heavily used and the poor condition is unsafe for players.
Total project cost: \$2,859.78; Rec. Council Contribution: \$714.94; County Funds: \$2,144.84
- *Freedom Area Recreation Council – Presented by Sue Chaney*
Sue is requesting a storage container for the soccer program to be placed at Hodges Park for the new goals the council has purchased. The container will keep the new/existing goals and soccer equipment in safe conditions.
Total project cost: \$3,800.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$950.00; County Funds: \$2,850.00
- *North Carroll Recreation Council – Presented by Erin Gibson – (Priority #1)*
Erin is requesting two sets of goals for the field hockey program. Due to the increase in program participation additional goals are needed.
Total project cost: \$2,520.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$612.50; County Funds: \$1,907.50
- *North Carroll Recreation Council – Presented by Bobbie Humphrey – (Priority #2)*
Bobbie is requesting flat goals for the soccer program. Due to the increase in program participation and for safety reasons the additional goals are needed.
Total project cost: \$4,698.94; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,174.89; County Funds: \$3,524.05
- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Herb Eyer – (Priority #1)*
Herb is requesting a backstop and player protection fence for Jaycee Park. A new backstop and higher fencing is required for player and spectator safety.
Total project cost: \$7,857.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$1,964.25; County Funds: \$5,892.75
- *Westminster Area Recreation Council – Presented by Robert George – (Priority #2)*
Robert is requesting a field extension to a 90' diamond at Kate Wagner Fields. Currently nine teams share the two 90' diamonds and with more teams being added a third 90' field is necessary.
Total project cost: \$10,500.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$2,485.00; County Funds: \$8,015.00
- *Winfield Recreation Council – Presented by Peter Berggren – (Priority #1)*
Peter is requesting ball diamond mix for five softball fields at Mayeski Park which will help maintain proper drainage and keep the surface for players safe.
Total project cost: \$2,204.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$463.60; County Funds: \$1,740.80
- *Winfield Recreation Council – Presented by Peter Berggren – (Priority #2)*
Peter is requesting ball diamond mix for two baseball fields at Mayeski Park which will help maintain proper drainage and keep the surface for players safe.
Total project cost: \$5,143.60; Rec. Council Contribution: \$900.90; County Funds: \$4,242.70

- *Winfield Recreation Council – Presented by Peter Berggren – (Priority #3)*

Peter is requesting ball diamond mix for Lions Club Park. Due to lack of space at the local schools, Winfield's baseball program uses the Lions Club fields for practice. The mix provides proper drainage and safer fields.

Total project cost: \$3,674.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$621.00; County Funds: \$3,053.00

- *Woodbine Recreation Council – Presented by Jami Henley*

Jami is requesting funds to help with the purchase and installation of playground equipment at Krimgold Park for (Bohde's Place). To date over \$45,000 has been raised by Jami's efforts for this project.

Total project cost: \$100,000.00; Rec. Council Contribution: \$5,000.00; County Funds: \$15,000.00

Due to a shortage of voting members this evening, the vote will be called at a later date. Council presidents and coordinators will be notified when a decision has been rendered.

MARKETING EFFORTS:

Jeff Degitz shared the new department brochure with the Board. It is a shortened smaller version of the Annual Report that shares a broad spectrum of information about the department and is a good compliment to the new Parks brochure completed last year. We have continued our Facebook efforts with an overwhelming 2,000+ likes and late last summer added Twitter to our social media communication. The County has a Gov. Delivery program that the department is currently learning to utilize to its full abilities and will be used more extensively in the future to reach the public. We have also started last summer a *new resident* mailing once a month that includes a letter and department magnet; informing the community of our parks and programs. Email blasts to program registrants also have been going out to inform the community of upcoming events and programs.

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR:

Jeff Degitz asked that the nominating committee discuss and bring forward to the March meeting a nomination for vice chair.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Derek Ludlow thanked the hard work and efforts of Jeff Degitz and Lisa Carroll on the Background Check Project. Lisa Carroll then shared with the Board the new ID tag being instituted with the program.

Lisa Carroll shared that coming June 3, 2016 is our 1st Annual Carroll County Park Legacy Golf Outing. The event is being held at the Westminster National Golf Course starting at 7:30am and is open to the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Judy Baker and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Candy Sharrer

Candy Sharrer, Secretary