

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Thursday, August 3, 2017
5:30 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Bellis, Chairperson; Dick Buckler, Jake Heibel, Patrick Murphy and Floyd Warren.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Caroline King, Thomas Nelson, Fred Parker and Ashley Varner.

RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Arthur Shepherd, R&P Director; Tyrone Harris, Facilities Coordinator; and Kathy Bailey, Recorder.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Doug Bellis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dick Buckler moved, seconded by Floyd Warren, to approve the minutes of June 29, 2017; motion carried with all in favor.

ATHLETIC FIELD USE PLAN

Mr. Shepherd provided an overview of the current athletic field use policy as it relates to inclement weather situations. He also provided a handout of the policies from Calvert, Talbot, Queen Anne and Spotsylvania counties. Staff would like to examine the current R&P policy in light of recent concerns voiced by parents and coaches. Mr. Shepherd anticipates discussing the issue with the Board again in September and will invite citizens and sports league representatives for input. A draft of the revised policy is anticipated to be presented at the October meeting. Any changes requiring fiscal impact will be addressed during the FY2019 budget process.

PROJECT UPDATES

Snow Hill Park - The CSMC approved a plan of action on June 20th to allow the public limited access to the waterfront for weekends only from July 22nd until October 1st. The park experienced a very successful opening on July 22nd.

LPPRP – It is anticipated the final draft Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan (LPPRP) plan and resolution will be presented to the CSMC on August 22nd.

Elms Beach Park Master Plan – It is anticipated that the final draft Elms Beach Park Master Plan will be presented to the CSMC on August 29th.

John G. Lancaster Park – A ribbon cutting ceremony for improvements at Lancaster Park is anticipated to be held on Tuesday, September 26th.

Dorsey Park Improvements – The Dorsey Park Football Field Improvements project will include installation of an irrigation system and renovated turf. As part of a separate Capital Improvements Project, the restroom/concession building will be renovated. Renovation of the building will include new lighting, faucets, painting and ADA upgrades.

Three Notch Trail Phase Seven – Design and engineering is underway for phase seven of the trail which will run from Wildewood up to Leonardtown/Hollywood road for a distance of about four miles.

Museum Division Manager – A formal announcement is expected in the near future on the selection for the Museum Division Manager position.

Gymnastics Program Update – A new program director was hired and began work on August 2, 2017. New coaches were hired and the coaching staff now totals six. Staff continues to work with the volunteer Booster Club. A full parent meeting was held on July 19, 2017.

Cheerleading Update – Cheerleading currently has over 100 young people registered.

NEXT MEETING OF R&P BOARD

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on September 7, 2017.