

MINUTES

Board of Parks and Recreation
Cecil County Community Center
17 Wilson Rd.
Rising Sun, Md 21911



August 20, 2012

OPENING: 5:30 P.M.

- Call to Order: Steve Minor, 5:35 PM
- In attendance: Steve Minor, Vice Chairman, Bernie Brown, Don Harmer, Jen Smith, Chris Hersl, Cynthia Cantor, Superintendent, Kelly Schaible, Secretary, Danielle Hemling, Recreation Coordinator, Clyde VanDyke, Director, Commissioner Michael Dunn, ex-officio, Commissioner Tari Moore, Chip Peterson, Joe Smith, Nicholas Holtman, Frank Holtman .
- Approval of Meeting Minutes, June 4, 2012,
Motion to Approve: Bernie Brown
Second: Don Harmer

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Eagle Scout Project Presentation, Conowingo Park, Nicholas Holtman
Nicholas Holtman is currently working to achieve Eagle Scout ranking. He has chosen a project to enhance Conowingo Park. He proposes the installation of mile markers and informational panels placed along the trails that detail local wild life often found around the area. His proposal involves the installation of 4x4 posts every ¼ mile along the trails for the mile markers with a color designation for each trail and for the informational panels to highlight various species of trees. The markers and panels will be constructed of the same materials that are currently used for other markers along the trails. He proposes 8-10 informational panels be placed along the trails. The Board requested that materials be used that are clear coated so vandalism by paint is easily removed. Nicholas hopes that the project can be completed within 6 months. All members of the parks board agreed that this would be a nice addition to the park. The Board has asked that Nicholas bring a sample of the signs to the Board for approval before installing.
Motion to approve : Jenn Smith
Second the motion: Linda Snyder
- Chip Peterson, President Cecil County Jr. Football
Cecil County Jr Football has 6 teams (3 sub teams per team – 18 teams) around the county, 900 participants including cheer leaders. Wants to expand to include flag football for the younger kids as well as simulated a high school program for the older kids. Currently Cecil County Jr Football utilizes the Bard Cameron field. Registration fees vary by team but are dictated by the cost of the uniforms.
- Joe Smith, President of Rising Sun Little League
Currently utilizes the Community Center fields for Rising Sun Little League as well as other fields throughout the County not associated with Cecil County Parks and Recreation. An estimated 2500 participants partake in the program. Rising Sun Little League is a 501 c 3 and relies heavily on donations and fund raisers. The League has not raised their registration fees in 6 years.

- **CIP Project Update, Sports Complex/Conowingo Park, Clyde VanDyke, Director**
 Sports Complex-Final plans are under review and we are currently waiting for the NOI permit to be issued. Hope to have out to bid in September. The project will consist of re-constructing the existing baseball field and football field to address the drainage issues. The fields will be re-graded and sodded.
 Conowingo – Currently waiting on a permit from the SHA. Hope to have permit in place by end of August. Plan to have project out to bid by the 1st of the year.
- **Discuss Water Access Points – Public/Private, Clyde VanDyke, Director**
 The National Forest Service conducted a survey of the water access points to the bay from New York to Virginia. The goal is to add an additional 300 access points to the bay by the year 2025. Please visit www.baygateways.net for more information.
- **Survey, Don Harmer**
 Discussion on distribution of the survey. Survey can be distributed through Survey Monkey. Information can be held within the program for a period of time and revisited. The information can be filtered by date. Chris Hersl to provide a link for review of the program. Clyde to discuss the program with other Department Heads to assess the need of the program within other Departments.
- **Regional Park Marketing, Steve Minor, Vice Chairman**
 Steve Minor, Vice Chair suggested to edit our mission/vision statement to add the development of the 100+ acres of the McMillan property as well as the addition of a turf field. Steve Minor also suggested the construction of a perimeter walkway to the McMillan property as a start to the project.
- **Update, Camp C.A.R.E. Partnership, Cynthia Cantor, Superintendent**
 Camp C.A.R.E is a 3 week camp for special needs youth. After losing the use of their normal venue for the camp, Camp C.A.R.E. was held at the Community Center. The camp was a success with a total of 57 participants and will be held at the Community Center in the future.
- **Organizational Banners, Clyde VanDyke, Director**
 Clyde VanDyke wanted to discuss the addition of banners to our county parks. The banners would display the name of the users of the parks.
- **Promotion Parks/Facilities, Bernie Brown**
 Bernie Brown would like for the board to take pictures of residents using the County Parks. Those pictures can be sent to the Cecil Whig for publication.
- **Plans of current Board Members for future service, Bernie Brown**
 With the resignation of Dave Vanaskey, the board is seeking its seventh member. Applications have been submitted to the Commissioners office. A seventh board member will be introduced at the next meeting. Clyde VanDyke suggests that if a current board member knows someone in the public that represents a sector of recreation that is not currently represented within the Board that they have them fill out an application and submit it to the Administration Office.
- **County Executive Candidates Perspectives, Bernie Brown**
 Bernie Brown asked Commissioner Tari Moore what her perspective was on County Parks and Recreation and how she thinks that we can achieve our goals. Commissioner Moore stated that she firmly believes the Parks and Recreation is a department that she feels will continue to grow. How it grows is the question, she believes that the 501 c 3's, being able to utilize grant money and private/public partnership are important to leverage what Government money that we do have.

- **Gore Employees Volunteer Opportunity, Steve Minor, Vice Chairman**
Gore allows for 8 hours of paid volunteer time per year, per employee. A list of organizations is recommended by Gore for this volunteer work. Steve Minor, Vice Chairman, suggested that Cecil County Parks and Recreation be added to that list. Gore also allows for an employee, if having volunteered for 20 hours for a particular organization, to request a grant for \$500 to go towards that particular organization.
- **Powerpoint, Clyde VanDyke, Director**
A powerpoint was presented to highlight Department accomplishments since 2006. To receive a hard copy of the presentation please contact the Parks and Recreation office.

Motion to close open session: Chris Hersl

Second: Linda Snyder

Next Meeting: to be held Monday, September 17th at 5:30 pm in the County Administration building