

**RECREATION AND PARKS BOARD
OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Thursday, November 5, 2015**

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Nelson, Chairperson; Richard Buckler, Vice-Chairperson; Doug Bellis, Jake Heibel, Teresa Howard, Caroline King, Patrick Murphy and Ashley Varner.

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Swift.

RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Loewe, R&P Director; David Guyther, Parks Division Manager; and Kathy Bailey, Recorder.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Doug Bellis moved, seconded Caroline King, to approve the minutes of October 1, 2015; motion carried 8-0.

PARKS DIVISION UPDATE

Director Brian Loewe introduced David Guyther, Parks Manager, who provided a report on activities of the Parks Division. Highlights included a PowerPoint presentation with the following updates:

- New ball field fencing at parks (Seventh District, Cecil, and St. Andrews Estates parks)
- Basketball court resurfacing at Chancellor's Run Regional Park (CRRP)
- CRRP Loffler Center paving project
- Nicolet Park spray ground resurfacing project
- Chaptico Park field improvements
- Pictures of conditions of new and older fields at Fifth District Park
- An abandoned boat removal project
- Kenny Dement Memorial unveiling ceremony photos

Patrick Murphy and Caroline King requested that staff explore a separate pathway or area for walkers and runner in CRRP. Mr. Murphy asked if staff could look into netting for ballfield #4 at Fifth District Park. He also asked if staff could look into irrigating more fields in the future. He thanked the Parks staff for all they do to maintain the parks and facilities.

PROJECT UPDATES

Director Brian Loewe provided an update on the status of several park and facility improvement projects.

Three Notch Trail Phase VI

- Construction is currently underway on this five mile section of trail which runs from MD Route 5 in Mechanicsville to MD Route 236 in new Market. Mr. Loewe provided several pictures of trail construction to date.
- Additional signage has been placed along the right-of-way informing citizens that the trail is under construction and not open at this time.
- Anticipated opening in spring 2016; construction is approximately 70% complete.

Three Notch Trail Phase VII

- This section is approx. four miles, from Wildewood to Hollywood.

- Concept plan project award is expected in the near future.
- The concept planning process will produce alternatives and recommendations for the trail alignment in the California (Wildewood) and Hollywood areas.

Mr. Loewe also outlined several new projects being proposed for the FY2017 capital budget which were discussed at the CSMC first budget work session.

- Sports Complex – The proposed project would construct a multi-sports complex (9 playing fields) in the California/Leonardtwn area for youth soccer, lacrosse, field hockey and football games and tournaments.
- Nicolet Park Entrance – The project proposed to construct the main entrance for Nicolet Park.
- Recreation/Community Center – The proposed project would construct a multiple use Recreation Center within existing Nicolet Park. This would include a gymnasium, fitness center, competitive gymnastics training room, locker rooms, restrooms, storage, classrooms and parking.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Nominating Committee will be selected at the December 2015 meeting for the Election of Officers which is anticipated to take place at the first meeting of 2016.

NEXT MEETING OF R&P BOARD

The next meeting of the Recreation and Parks Board is scheduled for Thursday, December 3, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Kathy Bailey, Recorder

Minutes approved by the Recreation and Parks Board on January 7, 2016.