Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 15, 2020- 7:00pm
Department of Recreation Headquarters
Conference Room #1
7120 Oakland Mills Road
Columbia, MD 21046

Members Present:
Sylvia Ramsey, Chair; Ed Coleman, Co-Chair; Dave Grabowski; Tom Franklin; Anna Boyd, Student Member

Members Absent:
Mavis Ellis; Joanne Kiebler

Staff Present:
Raul Delerme, Director; John S. Marshall, Bureau Chief of Parks; Bob Linz, Acting Bureau Chief of Capital Projects, Park Planning and Construction; Ryan Etter, Recording Secretary

Call to Order:
Ms. Ramsey called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Public Comments:
No Public Comments.

Director's Report:

- Capital Projects budget has been approved by the Board.
- Had a meeting with Merriweather folks to finalize agreement for Wine in the Woods 2020.
- Budget meeting on January 16th in front of Spending Affordability committee.

Bureau of Parks:

- Scott Bowen issued a violation notice to the Sanctuary HOA for clearing 4,080 square feet of forest conservation easement.

- In 2019, Robinson staff, ran 524 programs, serving 21,356 participants and generating $241,092 in revenue.
- During the month of December, 7,169 people visited the annual Holiday Model Train Gardens at the B&O Ellicott City Station Museum.
- Belmont Manor and Historic Park's Holiday Open House event in cooperation with Howard County Conservancy was held on Dec. 15th. Over 800 visitors attended over a 3-hour timeframe.
- Middle Patuxent Environmental Area maintenance shed, offices and comfort station to be open in January. Parking lot is already open.
- The Digistar 6 Planetarium renovation project at Robinson Nature Center to be open to the public in January.
- E-scooters being considered in certain specified zones in Columbia – Blandair Park and Cedar Lane Park included.
- Blandair Park Phase 3 to be open in the summer of 2020.
- Vivian C. "Millie" Bailey Park to open late spring.
- Installation of the pollinator meadow at Belmont Manor and Historic Park slated for the spring of 2020.
- Robinson Nature Center has arranged with Port Discovery to borrow the Sun, Earth Universe mini-exhibit in 2020. The exhibit will be made available October 2020 through January 2021.
- Board meting in February will be a Public meeting addressing Lightning Alert system at parks.

<u>Bureau of Capital Projects and Planning</u>

- Brown bridge at Centennial Park cracked
    - New bridge will take 12 weeks to open
    - Currently detouring paths around bridge
- Cricket pitch at Schooley Mill Park will be installed soon
    - Grading in the spring
- A Memorandum of Understanding has been put in for Cradlerock cricket pitch.
- Belmont Mansion exterior has been renovated.

<u>Bureau of Recreation</u>:

- No Report

Bureau of Administrative Services:

- No Report

Old Business:

  - Department of Public Works is inquiring about building a Fire station on existing field space at Cedar Lane Park. Recreation and Parks would gain 2 fields from Public Works.
- Belmont Manor and the Patapsco Female Institute won Couples Choice of the Year Award for Wedding Wire.

New Business:

- Starting in March, Bureau of Facilities will be doing a geothermal project at Belmont. Building wells in back behind ball room to be environmentally friendly
- Will be installing a fiberglass bridge at the Howard County Conservancy.

Ms. Ramsey made the motion to adjourn the meeting. A second motion was made by Mr. Grabowski and Mr. Franklin. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Sylvia Ramsey, Chairperson

EDWARD T COLEMAN
VICE-CHAIR.

A. Raul Delerme, Executive Secretary