

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KENT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD  
June 16, 2014

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**Present:** Melinda Bookwalter, Bryan Williams, Faye Little, Jim Wright, Melissa Cannon, Joyce Moody, and Myra Butler

**Absent:** Michael Foreman, Penny Usilton, Danielle Blake, Harry Packard, Mary Fisher, and Commissioner William Pickrum

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ACTION ON MINUTES**

At 6:03 p.m. the meeting was called to order.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved by a majority vote via an electronic poll, which closed on February 7, 2014.

**II. New Member Welcome**

- A. Ms. Butler informed the board of the new appointment Mary Fisher, effective, February 4. Ms. Fisher brings to the board a wealth of recreation experience from her many years of overseeing the athletic department at Kent County High School. In addition to coaching various sports teams.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Recreation- None  
B. Parks- None  
C. Other- None

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Recreation

1. School Year End/School Use

- a) KCPR's use of KCPS buildings ended for the school year in June with the conclusion of the After School Program. Sports programming concluded in February.
- i. The Bayside Hoyas needed space in the Kent County Middle School this year for their basketball program, so KCPR programming previously held at Kent County Middle School was held at Garnett Elementary School. Despite initial concerns with the smaller gym space, the season went smoothly.

2. Spring Program Highlights

- a) Ms. Butler provided the following highlights:
- i. This year's Tumbling and Movement instructor was a high school student. Despite her age in a lead position, the program was very successful, with extremely positive feedback from program parents.
- ii. Ballet, Jazz, and Tap was not offered this year due to the lack of an instructor.
- iii. Thanks to the recruiting efforts of Chris Yiannakis, Youth Wrestling Coach, 22 additional children enrolled in the Youth Wrestling Program this year. The program was close to cancellation last year due to low enrollment numbers.
- iv. The spring session of Toning was cancelled due to low attendance. The class will resume in the fall.
- v. Although the New York City bus trips continue to fare well, the department has decreased the number of bus

trip offerings due to a lack of interest. The Monster Jam bus trip scheduled for March was cancelled.

- vi. KCPR has partnered with Washington College to offer the College Corner. Washington College representatives will be at the Community Center during after school hours to assist high school students with the beginning stages of the college selection/application process.

3. Summer Program Highlights

a) Ms. Butler provided the following highlights:

- i. Summer Camp programs will begin on June 23. Ms. Butler reviewed current registration numbers.
- ii. Current registration numbers for aquatics programs were also reviewed. Adult Swim Lessons will begin on June 30. There are currently two people enrolled.
- iii. Co-ed Softball will be independently run and governed this year, with KCPR having a seat on the Board.
- iv. Horizons will utilize the Community Center again this summer for their summer enrichment program. Three groups will alternate between the Gymnasium, Pool, and Worton Elementary School playground.
  - Board member, Melinda Bookwalter, will assist with instruction and lifeguarding for the program.

4. Summer Transportation to the Community Center

a) New Millington-Galena Route

- i. The DCT routes to the Community Center will begin on June 23, with a new route from Millington/Galena being added on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
  - The Town of Millington was mistakenly under the impression that they would have added responsibilities in distributing bus passes for DCT, and originally chose not to participate in the program; however, after clarification, they decided to participate. An article was recently printed in the Kent County News about Millington not participating; however, a correction will be printed in an upcoming edition of the newspaper.
  - Each town will make a monetary contribution in order for their youth to ride the bus at no cost.
    1. Chestertown is contributing \$450.
    2. Galena is contributing \$250.
    3. Millington is contributing \$200.
  - Once the money contributed from the towns has been depleted, the county may consider funding the difference.

B. Parks

1. Program Open Space

a) FY14 Recap

i. Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields

- The athletic fields are completed, however, cannot be played on for three full seasons (Spring 2015). Team benches, bleachers, and

- goals will also be purchased as a part of the project.
  - ii. Portable Pool Chair Lifts
    - Lifts have been delivered to each pool location, as required by the federal mandate.
  - iii. Request to Revert Unspent Funds
    - The Multi-Purpose fields project actual costs were far less than what was budgeted and approved by the State Board of Public Works. Therefore, leftover dollars have been requested to be added back to the POS pot for Kent County in order for additional projects to be completed. This request is scheduled for reviewed by the Board of Public Works this month.
- b) FY15 Annual Program and Projects
- i. Ms. Butler distributed and reviewed the FY15 POS Annual Program for Development, listing projects and project descriptions submitted for Kent. The budget for all of the projects totals \$230,000, of which the County will be required to match ten percent. The County's out of pocket costs will be \$2,000, whereas the \$21,000 will be paid from Standard Solar's donation from the solar panel array.
  - ii. In response to a question raised by Ms. Moody, Ms. Butler informed that POS grant funding is allowing the County to preserve the Granary from deteriorating any further. Potential historic preservation grant funds could assist with rehabilitating the structure for a reuse that also preserves its historical integrity, along with similar efforts for other structures on the property.
2. Worton Park
- a) KCHS Trojan Trample 5K Run/Walk
    - i. The Trojan Trample was a fundraising initiative held for the first time by KCHS. The High School used the proceeds for restroom facilities at the stadium. Additional funding for a school mascot was obtained from the Local Management Board, resulting from a youth proposal.
  - b) KCHS Tree Plantings
    - i. With the help of KCHS Teacher, Liza Goetz, through the Governor's Clean Streams Restoration Grant, trees will be planted at both the High School and Worton Park. The planting of the trees will assist with improving water quality for the Chesapeake Bay and the Chester River.
  - c) Restroom Renovations (Interior Rehab)
    - i. The Worton Park restrooms will soon receive an interior rehabilitation, including new partition walls and fixtures. The overall rehabilitation will yield a more welcomed cosmetic appeal. The rehabilitation will likely take a total of 3-4 days, and is being scheduled by Mr. Wright.
  - d) Platform/Paddle Tennis Relocation



