



Talbot County Department of Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Minutes
November 19, 2020

Called to Order by Preston Peper

Members in attendance were Jeff Harrison, David Adams, Mike Butler, Dave Fisher, Jeff Parks, Kim Kearns, Kevin Shafer, Councilman Frank Divilio and Parks and Recreation Director, Preston Peper

Presentation by John Pritchett regarding Youth Soccer

Pritchett expressed a proposal for Talbot County Parks and Recreation to reinstitute a youth soccer program. It was turned over to TCPR from Talbot Soccer Assoc and then subsequently conceded to the local YMCA based on pressure from outside of County Govt. The proposal included such improvements as: better instruction, more structured leagues, coach training and retention and re-teaching the fundamentals and strategies of soccer. Would also provide a pathway to continue playing soccer on the “next” level. Board agreed that a better instruction would benefit all participants; however, because of the way the last transition occurred, it would not be appropriate to create a competing league (almost hypocritical as to the pushback we gave last time). Board agreed to readdress at the January meeting to make a decision to Pritchett.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous meeting minutes reviewed and approved, motion by Parks, second by Butler

Chairperson Report/County Council Representative – Discussed diversity paperwork, board signed. Heads up regarding public perception of Jamaica Point Rd. (not a county property). Discussed possible interpretive signage at all county parks.

Department of Parks and Recreation Report

COVID Update: No changes to parks and recreation operations from Governor Hogan’s new proclamation; still operating at 50% occupancy for skating, rooms, etc. ESHA, TFST, Jamie Webb hockey and Learnt to Skate well attended. Public skating numbers increased, but still capped at 150 attendance.

New Business

Michael Andrews Request – Letter to Department: Andrews is requesting that all users of Talbot County Landings be required to purchase ramp sticker (this is NOT what our current ordinance states). Board agreed to leave the current parameters as they are for users of the public landings.

Community Center Expansion Discussion: I will asking for Council approval to contract with one of our open-ended contract engineering firms on December 12th. With a work session before that on the same day. This will allow plans to be drawn and documentation for bidding of the expansion project.

Member Reports

Adjournment: Next meeting will be January 28, 2021, 6:00pm