



Talbot County Department of Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Minutes
December 12, 2019

Called to Order by Jeff Parks

Members in attendance were Jeff Parks, Jeff Harrison, Jamie Latham, David Adams, Mike Butler, Dave Fisher and Preston Peper

Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved, motion by Harrison, second by Fisher

Visitor Presentations

Lorraine Gould, Town of Easton Parks & Recreation Director and Rick VanEmburch, Town of Easton Engineer. In attendance to engage the Park Board regarding the request for POS funds to be allotted to the North Easton Park lighting project. Request was for \$300,000 (remaining balance after \$75,000 in donations). Board members had concerns of who is going to use the lights since the ballfields lights aren't used? Need of a more inclusive maintenance program than simply more aeration. Also a concern that park isn't open to the public. *Recommendation to allot 20% of the 2020 disbursement to assist TOE with funding (provided POS approves and additional funds are secured), 1st: Harrison, 2nd: Butler, voted 6-0.*

Chairperson Report/County Council Representative

No County Council Representative in attendance.

Department of Parks and Recreation Report

925 Port Street Property – With no design or plan for the property and the drastically poor shape of the building. *Recommendation to sell property to an entity that could rehab/restore and use the facility, not the Parks & Recreation Department, 1st: Harrison, 2nd: Fisher, voted 6-0.*

New Business

Neavitt Property acquisition discussion: Board decided no need for additional acreages in Neavitt. *Recommendation to not purchase property, 1st: Butler, 2nd: Latham, voted 6-0*

Oxford Property acquisition discussion: Board decided no need for additional acreages in Oxford. *Recommendation to not purchase property, 1st: Fisher, 2nd: Harrison, voted 6-0*

Mount Pleasant property sale discussion: Board was under the impression that was Board of Education property. Based on lack of organized use, lack of parking and RTC Park in close proximity. *Recommendation to explore selling property, 1st: Latham, 2nd: Parks, voted 6-0.*

Community Center expansion update: Renderings are complete, have met with one potential donor this week, will wait to hear if successful. If not, have about 4 more donors to meet. Peper will keep board updated.

Community Center lighting upgrade to LED discussion: approximately 1/3 of the bulbs are out on the CC fields, need firetruck to change. Peper explained that as with NEP lighting project; any funds diverted from gym will slow progress down. Approximate cost is \$136,000 to retrofit to LED. Parks explained that he can assist with getting bulbs switched out by FD.

Jr/Sr field discussion: Easton Little League is looking for additional fields for older leagues (90 ft. bases), the only fields in Talbot County that could be expanded to those dimensions are at Chapel Elementary and the Middle School Fields (old Starkey fields). Peper will convey back to Little League.

Member Reports

Adjournment: Next meeting will be January 16, 2020, 6:00pm