



Talbot County Department of Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Minutes
July 8, 2021

Called to Order by Preston Peper

Members in attendance were David Fisher, David Adams, Jeff Parks, Walter Chase, Kevin Shafer/Kurisha Hoffman, Jeff Harrison, Kim Kearns, Councilman Frank Divilio and Parks and Recreation Director, Preston Peper

Previous Meeting Minutes

Previous meeting minutes reviewed and approved, motion by Chase, second by Harrison

Chairperson Report/County Council Representative – Welcome to Kurisha Hoffman, the new Board of Education representative to replace Kevin Shafer. Fisher stated that the infields in St. Michaels have been overgrown possibly due to reduction in playing this year (COVID)? Peper will explore spraying the fields. Harrison stated that the trimming of parks (Perry Cabin) has been neglected and the parks looks bad.

Old Business

None

New Business

Program Open Space Discussion: Peper explained that in FY22 Maryland counties received a one-time additional disbursement for park use/renovations; Talbot County received \$1,000,000 for park improvements. Peper explained that the projects to be considered are: Bermuda seeding/Irrigation of the North side of the Community Center property, Frederick Douglass Park on the Tuckahoe improvements (trails, meadow, overlooks), Community Center Ice Plant replacement (over 20+ years old), Concession Stand/Bathroom replacement (30+ years old) and Pickleball Courts. Motion by Chase, 2nd by Harrison to approve Program Open Space projects. *Park Board voted 7-0 in favor of approval of Program Open Space projects.*

Old Trappe Park Property Discussion: The Town of Trappe has expressed an interest in acquiring Old Trappe Park to be used possibly as town offices, etc. Peper explained that this property has no organized activities on it, mostly due to close proximity of Home Run Baker Park, and that the last events to use the property (Trappetoberfest, Carnival and Car Show) have moved on to new venues. TCPR currently contract mows this property at a cost of approximately \$100/week for about 30 weeks. This property falls under the same concerns as Port Street property as it is an ongoing cost for maintenance even when never used. Motion by Fisher, 2nd by Parks to recommend selling to the Town of Trappe when the Council deems appropriate. *Park Board voted 7-0 in favor of selling to the Town of Trappe.*

Easton Point Landing/925 Port Street Discussion: Peper wanted to re-visit/verify Park Board support for the possible closure of Easton Point once a replacement landing is constructed by the Town of Easton up the water from the current location. The idea is to close in the boat ramp and create a waterfront park owned and operated by Talbot County. The 925 Port Street property is in horrible disrepair and should be liquidated. Motion by Parks, 2nd by Chase to sell the 925 Property. *Park Board voted 7-0 in liquidating 925 Port Street property.*

Member Reports: Harrison explained that St. Luke's Church in St. Michaels is closing its preschool program and would like the playground removed. This leads to the possibility of moving it to Back Creek. Some logistical concerns as far as removal, replacement and warranty if possible.

Adjournment: Next meeting will be September 16, 2021, 6:00pm