

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board
Gude Facility – Rothgeb Dr.
May 17, 2018
Board Meeting Minutes**

PRESENT: Board Members: George Sushinsky, Tom Lynch, Rob Harriman, Xiao-Feng Xie, Kent Wong, Dirk Whatley II
Absent: Chip Boylan, Bob Taylor
Staff: Tim Chesnutt, Rob Orndorff
Citizens: Mike & Kate Berman

Meeting commencement: 7:03 pm

Re: Approval of March and April Minutes

Minutes for March and April were reviewed. An initial and second motion made to approve both March and April minutes as presented.

Re: Citizens Forum

Mike and Kate Berman are in attendance for the Tree Appeal at 821 Bowie Road.

Re: Citizens Forum

Mrs. Kate Berman informed the board that her home sits on a corner lot with a good number of mature trees, some of which they have planted themselves. Their lot currently has trees on all sides of the house, except for the street side. Planting additional City trees will degrade the growth of the nature sanctuary the Berman's have worked extensively on, as it requires direct sunlight in order to thrive. Rob explained the policy and the Master plan that needs to be adhered to and in the plan, it has the replacement tree for this property, a Kwanzan Cherry tree. The goal is to provide a tree canopy to shade the streets for better air quality. Tom asked if relocating this same tree is an option, so that it still follows the City's Tree Master plan requirement but does not shade the only direct sunlight the Berman's are asking to salvage their native wildlife habitat.

Re: Rothgeb Facility Highlights – by Host Rob Orndorff

Rob shared that started in this same trailer when he joined the City of Rockville, and the trailers were brought in in 1995 to expand the offices and the training room. They have since not been replaced, however updates to the AC units, the exterior of the trailers have been updated. Windows are the originals. The entire fleet that handles maintenance of The City are out of this facility – for Recreation and Parks as well as Public Works. The parking lot is limited to accommodate the staff that represent this maintenance facility – approximately 200 staff members report to the Gude/Rothgeb facility.

There are open bays across the motor vehicle area. Parks has one of the bays and Public Works uses another to gather recycled material. The recycling company previously used, went out of business and since we do not separate recyclables, we collect recyclables from our facilities in our bay then a truck comes to pick up our recyclables from one central location.

Re: Staff Reports

- **Hometown Holidays**
Tim reminded everyone that Hometown Holidays is coming up May 26 thru May 28. This is our 30th Hometown Holidays event and 74th Memorial Day Parade. Chip Boylan is looking for volunteers to assist at the beer booth, as part of the support from the Recreation and Parks Foundation.
- **Suds & Soles 5K Run**
This run takes place through downtown Rockville with a post-race party featuring beer samplings a commemorative mug and great music.
- **Independence Day Celebration – July 4th**
Taking place at Mattie Stepanek Park in King farm for the fourth year.
- **TEDx (Ted Talks)**
This is coming to College Park Thursday, June 21, 2018 at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, College Park. The theme is “Outside” which is a combination of thinking outside the box while getting outside. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning PG County is co-hosting it. Rockville Recreation and Parks is holding a viewing site at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre of this event free of charge. This event is intended on being an annual event.
- **500 West Montgomery Ave. has a name**
The Mayor and Council have adopted the name Chestnut Lodge Park, recommended by the R&P Advisory Board.
- **Mayor & Council presentation by DNR**
The deer population has reached critical mass due to the number of deer and calls from residents. State, County and Federal experts presented to Mayor and Council about a deer culling program. Mayor and Council to review a deer culling program featuring bow hunting, which is a safer method for the residents. There are programs in the County that allow bow hunting to take place within 50 feet from a residence. The next conversation with Mayor and Council on this topic is scheduled for June 18, 2018.
- **KID Museum**
The County and the City had considered a partnership with the KID Museum, which they turned down as they do not want to share space with anyone.
- **Walking Town Meeting – Rockshire Neighborhood**
A walking Town meeting was done with Mayor and Council through Rockshire. Which allows City staff to see and meet other citizens. This was a 2 mile route walk with one of the stops being the Rockshire Shopping Center, the 175 Watts Branch property. It was coordinated through the Rockshire HOA.

Re: Subcommittee Reports

- a) **Youth Standing Committee Report** – None
- b) **Community Centers and Parks** - None
- c) **Glenview Mansion** - None
- d) **Recreation and Parks Foundation** - None

- e) **RedGate** – (George)
George had the opportunity to play at RedGate this year. The sand traps are still not in the greatest shape. George receives notifications of different programs RedGate runs, with perks such as free snack bar items, which show they are making efforts to get people to come in
- f) **Swim & Fitness Center** – (None)
- g) **Sports and Fitness** – (None)

Re: Old Business/New Business

- **New Business:**
Tree Appeal at 821 Bowie Road
Motion on the floor for R&P to proceed with replacing the tree, however have Rob meet with the homeowners, Mr. and Mrs. Berman to determine an alternate location for the tree. A second motion was made with a 5 to 1 vote to proceed. A letter will be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Berman on behalf of Recreation and Parks with the final decision.

Re: Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

The next meeting: Thursday, June 28, 2018 at Rockville City Hall