

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board  
Rockville Senior Center  
February 27, 2020  
Board Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Chip Boylan, Tom Lynch, George Sushinsky, Bob Taylor, Stephanie Pankiewicz, Maryann Kearns, Dirk Whatley, Eder Martinez, Rob Harriman  
Staff: Tim Chesnutt, Karla Sheehi, Betty Wisda, Trish Evans  
M&C Liaison: Mark Pierzchala

**Meeting commencement: 7:03 pm**

**Re: Approval of January Minutes**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**Re: Citizens Forum**

No citizens were in attendance.

**Re: Senior Center Hose – Trish Evans, Villages Coordinator**

Trish spoke about The Senior Center and how it is an extremely busy facility. She shared a copy of the Senior Spring Recreation Guide that was just published. Here are some highlights of events that make the Senior Center a hopping place:

- 55 fitness classes taught per week with wait lists
- Phase I of the ADA CIP project completed which included; main multi use bathrooms, single use bathrooms, breakfast bar, stage chair lift, access to light switches and HVAC and main entrance.
- Variety of classes and events held at the center for members and non-members
- Monthly trips coordinated which are attended by 40-50 people
- Approximately 85 to 90 people attend the monthly birthday and anniversary parties
- Celebrations put on by Rockville Seniors Inc. such as St. Patrick's Day
- Rockville Seniors Inc. recently purchased \$15K worth of tables for the Carnation Room
- The Villages Program (Neighbor to Neighbor Support Networks) is working with 6 neighborhood groups throughout The City of Rockville and all groups are creative with the activities hosted and support made available for citizens within these. The Villages groups consist of: King Farm Neighbor Village, Pump House Village, Twinbrook Village, Town Center Area Village, West End Neighbors and Hungerford.
- Everyday at the Senior Center is eventful – come visit and see for yourself!

## **Re: Artist Nomination Committee – Betty Wisda**

Betty Wisda joins us to talk about The Artist Nomination Committee for the Gateway Art Project. The committee will consist of Cultural Arts Commissioners, a member of the Recreation and Park Advisory Board, a member of the Planning Commission, and a public art administrator. This public art project is commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the City of Rockville Art in Public Places Program and is located at the corner of Route 28 and Fallsgrove Drive. Betty is soliciting a volunteer from the Recreation and Parks board to participate on the committee. Tom Lynch volunteered to be a part of the committee for the Gateway Art Project. The meeting for the project site visit will be held March 5, 2020 at 6:30 PM at Thomas Farm Community Center.

## **Re: Staff Reports**

- **Swim and Fitness Center**  
The Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the reopening of the Swim Center locker rooms and main entrance, is scheduled for March 1, 2020 at 2pm.
- **FY21 Budget**  
Mayor and Council have three remaining budget work sessions; March 2, March 23 and April 20. The tentative date to adopt the budget is May 4, 2020.
- **King Farm Farmstead RFI (Request for Information)**  
Discussion by Mayor and Council is scheduled for March 18, 2020.
- **Redgate Master Planning Scope of Work**  
Discussion by Mayor and Council is scheduled for March 23, 2020
- **Recreation and Parks Strategic Plan**  
Discussion by Mayor and Council is scheduled for March 23, 2020.
- **Arbor Day Proclamation**  
The Arbor Day Proclamation is being presented by Mayor and Council on March 23, 2020. Wayne Knoll will be present from Recreation and Parks.
- **Boards and Commissions Task Force Priority Recommendations**  
To be presented at the Mayor and Council meeting on April 20, 2020.
- **Parkland Dedication Ordinance**  
Discussion by Mayor and Council is scheduled for April 27, 2020.
- **Terrific Kid Bike Program**  
Presentation to be held at the Mayor and Council meeting on May 4, 2020.
- **Deer Culling Memo from Rec & Parks Advisory Board**  
Discussions were held on this at the February 24, 2020 Mayor and Council meeting, about shifting the culling pilot across Route 28 to the John Hayes Civic Center Park. Tim will confirm if this was the final decision made.
- **Pickleball Courts**  
Recreation and Parks continues to work City Manager and Mayor and Council to come up with a strategy to meet the needs of the neighborhoods and member group and look at what it would cost to install four additional courts at Mattie Stepanek Park. The goal is to avoid removing the two of the basketball courts or two tennis courts.
- **Sr. Construction Project Manager Vacancy**  
Recreation and Parks has hired a Sr. Construction Project Manager. He is scheduled to begin March 23, 2020.

## Re: Subcommittee Reports

- a) **Community Centers and Parks – None**  
George attended a family birthday party at Croydon Creek Nature Center which was last minute, but wonderful. Kudos to the Croydon Creek Nature Center staff.
- b) **Glenview Mansion (None)**  
Repairs to the sleeping porch at the Mansion continue. The contractor performing the repairs has uncovered more water damage to the porch and nonetheless is taking care of it.
- c) **Recreation and Parks Foundation – (Chip)**  
A reminder about The Annual Golf Classic at Lakewood Country Club on Monday, April 27, 2020. A Presenting Sponsor for the event Case Construction donated \$10k. Lakewood Country Club is requiring a minimum of 100 golfers for the event, so the foundation is in need of golfers for this event.
- d) **Swim & Fitness Center – (Bob)**  
Bob reminded everyone about the Ribbon Cutting ceremony at the Swim and Fitness Center on Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 2pm.
- e) **Sports and Fitness – (None)**
- f) **RedGate Park – (George)**  
During the February 3, 2020 Mayor and Council meeting, the RedGate RFP and its requirements were discussed. Development for residential, commercial or industrial were out of the question in the discussion. There is consideration for 10 acres of the land to be utilized for a Veterans Home. Councilmember Feinberg requested four or five group homes for differently abled populations.

## Re: Old Business/New Business

- The Deer Culling Program memo that was drafted by George on behalf of board members is ready to be presented to Mayor and Council. Although this topic was discussed at the February 24, 2020 meeting, the board agreed to have George proceed with submitting the memo. Tim will also confirm what the outcome was from the Mayor and Council discussion to move the Deer Culling Pilot Program to an alternate park instead of RedGate Park.  
George brought up the issue of ATV usage at RedGate. Signage prohibiting this would help enforce this and perhaps have Parks staff check as needed.  
Bag limits policy still need to be clarified and written as such on the forms required to fill out by program participants. Karla will reach out to Steve Mader so George can finalize his memo.
- An article was published in NRPA's February publishing about the concerns of Glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup. George will draft up a memo expressing the board's concerns for review and preparation for presentation to Mayor and Council.
- George has been the board chair for over two years now and wishes to pass his crown on. Karla will follow up on the process to do so and will proceed with the actions required.

## Re: Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

**The next meeting:** March 28, 2020 at 7 p.m. ViaWebEx