

RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
October 25, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.
Piney Run Nature Center

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Gary Davis (Vice Chair), Nadine Rosendale, Lyn Karr-Kratz, Kristen Darby, Austin Johnstone, David Ferguson, Anita Taylor, Michael Duffy

Members Excused: Donald Gerkin, David Ferguson, John Woodley

Ex-Officio Member Present: Bobs Hicks, Director

Staff Present: Brad Rogers, Dylan Collins, Dawn Harry, Will Brozy, Ashleigh Smith

Also Present: Commissioner- Ed Rothstein

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on October 23, 2024, in the Nature Center at Piney Run Park. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Gary Davis.

Welcome and Introductions:

Introductions were made around the room and Mr. Davis welcomed all in attendance. Advisory Board provided where they are located in the County. One open position – candidates sent to Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes:

The motion to approve the July minutes was made by Mr. Johnstone, it was seconded by Mr. Duffy, the vote was unanimous.

Director's Report

Staffing Update:

- Piney Run – Full-Time Park Ranger hired. Starting on November 7th.

Program/Events Update:

- Volunteer of the Year- Tuesday, November 7, 2024.
- Santa Calling – Santa Calling – Tuesday, December 10th 5-9pm. In need of volunteers.

Hashawha Update:

- Haunted History Hike – October 25th, the event is full.
- Planetarium refurbish will be starting soon.

Piney Run Update:

- Discussion on how Fall Fest event went. Successful event!
- Upcoming events - Wagon Rides.

Capital Project Update:

- Bear Branch Nature Center Pavilion – 75% complete.

- Piney Run Paving/Tennis Court Conversion/Basketball Court Overlay – pre bid meeting tomorrow.
- Freedom Park Challenge Course – will start within next 3 weeks and will take 3 weeks to complete.

Advisory Board Member Terms:

- Advisory Board Members terms expiring at the end of the calendar year:
 - Kristen Darby
 - David Ferguson
 - Donald Gerkin
 - Anita Taylor
- The board recommended to reappoint each member to a second term and forward to the Board of Carroll County Commissioners.

Chair and Vice Chair Discussion:

- Gary Davis volunteers for Chair and Austin Johnstone volunteered for Vice Chair.
- Unanimous vote from the board for Gary Davis as Chair and Austin Johnstone as Vice Chair.

2025 Advisory Board Meeting Schedule –

- Schedule given to the board and Mr. Hicks informed the board we are working on a virtual option.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
February 26, 2025	7:00 PM	Robert Moton Center
March 26, 2025	1:00 PM	Charles Carroll Center (Lunch at 12:30 PM)
May 21, 2025	7:00 PM	Robert Moton Center
June 25, 2025	7:00 PM	Robert Moton Center
July 23, 2025	7:00 PM	Robert Moton Center
September 24, 2025	7:00 PM	County Office Building – Room 003
October 22, 2025	1:00 PM	Piney Run Park Nature Center (Lunch at 12:30 PM)

Two Awards from Maryland Recreation and Parks Association:

- MRPA Showcase Landscape Site Award – Westminster Veterans Memorial Park – Memorial Garden
- MRPA Showcase Community Organization Award – Friends of Krimgold Park

Other Business:

Self Help – There will be a round of self-help in the spring. Vote in March. More details to come.

Public Comments:

Commissioner Rothstein –

Few issues to discuss: Power lines – reach out with questions. Solar panels on agriculture land. The budget – this is a year-round process. There are funding difficulties with developing the Department of Fire and EMS and the school mandates for Blueprint. Work through the capital process to get projects in front of us.

Further discussion on power lines and issues regarding the project with board members.
Further discussion on the budget process with board members.

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be held February 26, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Robert Moton Center.

Motion to adjourn was made by Gary Davis, it was seconded by Michael Duffy, the vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hicks

Bob Hicks, Director

Ashleigh Smith

Ashleigh Smith, Secretary