

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
March 28, 2018**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Kristin Darby; Donald Gerkin; Tom Long; Derek Ludlow; John Marks; Michael Rodgers; Tony Rosas; David Dolch; & Caitlin Christ

Members Excused: Judy Baker; Carolyn Garber;

Staff Present: Katy Bassett, Ric Buchanan, Lisa Carroll, Matt Decker; & Deb Rottman

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on March 28, 2018 at Hashawha Environmental Center in Westminster. The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by board chair Mike Rodgers.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

John Marks moved to approve the February 28, 2018 meeting minutes, Mike Rogers seconded, all concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. **Web site overhaul**: Contract awarded to firm to overhaul County's web site – a much needed change that will benefit Recreation and Parks greatly; look for changes in coming months.
2. **Agency Budget Session** – scheduled for April 3 at 9 am; discussion to focus on two requested positions – a full time manager position w/ benefits at Hap Baker Firearms Facility (replacing 40 hour contractual position) and a new full time Manager position for North Carroll High School site.
3. **Piney Run 2018 Open Season** – Park opened March 1 this year; over \$17,600 in revenue collected so far with improved public access to park and less neighborhood parking issues; near record fish caught on opening day is current leader in annual Big Fish contest .
4. **Piney Run Heron Sculpture** – Unveiling rescheduled due to weather for Thursday April 12 at 4 pm at Piney Run Park (near the boat ramp).
5. **Charles Carroll Community** – fencing in place and demolition of former school to begin soon; Commissioner Wantz held first meeting of community focus group on March 27.
6. **New Arts Council Director Announced** – After 21 years as Executive Director of the Carroll County Arts Council, Sandy Oxx is retiring at the end of June. Judy Morley will be the new Director, starting in early May.
7. **Spring Flag Football Program** – In an attempt to offer alternatives to tackle football for youth, a new co-ed flag football program was advertised this spring. Over 300 children have been registered and program will begin in April.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Wantz thanked all the members on the Advisory board for their service. He commended the department staff for maintaining Carroll County's incredible parks and various amenities in our community. He also mentioned his excitement for the Charles Carroll Community Center and spoke of the recent community meeting. Commissioner Wantz expressed his sincere appreciation and would like our department to keep up the good work.

Commissioner Weaver started by thanking the advisory board for their service and also thanked the department on having a great team. Commissioner Weaver mentioned that Recreation & Parks has very unique and creative ideas that are always well received and have become an important part of the community. He also mentioned that he would like to see the North Carroll Turf Field get the support and donations it needs to move forward.

FY18 PARK IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE:

Jeff Degitz shared the FY2018 projects worked on in the past year. During the past year, Recreation and Parks has administered over 63 capital improvement and self-help projects. The list of projects included the installation of two playgrounds, fence replacement at three locations, the installation of signage including new history signs, various paving projects as well as projects in the engineering and design phase.

SOUTH CARROLL DOG PARK UPDATES:

Commissioners approved use of 2+ acre site behind SC Senior & Community Center for dog park; fund raising efforts have begun with over \$500 collected in the first week

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR:

John Marks on behalf of the nominating committee, nominated Judy Baker as Vice Chair. Derek Ludlow seconded and motion was carried by unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mike Rogers thanked the Commissioner for their support and for attending the meeting. Mike also thanked the Advisory Board and spoke of their accomplishments.

John Marks thanked Mike Rogers for being board chair, as this was his last meeting as chair.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by John Marks, seconded by Tony Rosas and concurred by all, the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Director

Katy Bassett

Katy Bassett, Secretary