

OCEAN PINES RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES: December 13, 2021

LOCATION: Ocean Pines Administration Building

PARTICIPANTS: Committee Chairperson, Pat Stevens; Program Manager, Debbie Donohue; Laura Scharle; Martha Arthur; Larry Perrone; Roy Foreman; Bill Barnard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee did not meet in November; therefore there were no minutes to review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Debbie Donahue provided an update. Trunk or Treat and haunted house activities held in October were successful. Approximately 800 people attended the annual Fall Festival. This activity was supported by a number of student volunteers. The tree lighting was held in December. Community groups participated by decorating trees and gathering to support the activity. A holiday breakfast was held at the community center supported by Kiwanis. Visits with Santa were part of the activity.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Larry Perrone reported on the community survey. He noted participation is good and there is significant interest expressed by participants in volunteering in the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership: Kath Gottesman has terminated her activity with the committee. Two new members were introduced, Roy Foreman and Bill Barnhart.

Actins: Committee will review membership status at next meeting. Efforts to recruit new members will continue.

Kayak Rack Installation: Debbie reported temporary racks are here and designated for installation at the swim and racquet club. They will be installed in the next few months.

The location for permanent racks was discussed. Planning continues. Committee members are also gathering information for an accessible launch similar to one in St. Michaels that could be installed at a fixed pier (i.e. Pintail Park if possible). The committee is working to develop a request for submission as part of the 2022 budget. Estimated approximate cost, based on committee member research, is \$27,000.

Actions: Debbie will communicate with Public Works staff and the general manager regarding planning and implementation of the racks. The advisory committee will continue review of status the accessible launch at the next meeting.

Inclusive Park Progress:

The committee reviewed and discussed information regarding components of inclusive parks. They also discussed the need to develop a preliminary proposal for submission to the board that is sufficient to initiate formal planning for the project.

The committee expressed interest in integrating multigenerational activities that include fitness activities, bike paths and walkways into a comprehensive plan in addition to the specific plan for the inclusive playground at Bainbridge Park. The committee needs to obtain information regarding the status of the site at Bainbridge as well as preliminary cost information for site prep and equipment to develop a preliminary request for the Board.

Actions: Debbie will work with a small committee to gather information and develop a request to the Board for support and approval to begin the formal planning process for the inclusive playground. Martha will contact another county to obtain planning resources. Information will be reviewed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Bike Month: The committee supports participation in a community ride next spring. Possible date is May 21, 2021.

Executive Committee report: A report was developed by Patti and reviewed by the committee. The report will be reviewed at the December 16 Meeting of the Executive Committee. Larry suggested that the group identify highlights (inclusive playground, accessible Kayak Launch, Bike paths?) for emphasis at the meeting. Patti is planning to attend.

Future agenda items: Invite Ryan Miller to review information from his state experience regarding trails, bike paths, sidewalks and cross walks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. The next meeting will be held at the Community Center on January 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm.