

Morgan County Parks & Recreation Board (MCPRB)
Meeting Minutes: 2/19/2020

Appointed Members: (Term Expiration) P - Present / A - Absent

*Director: Dawn Beal P

County Commission:

Joel Tuttle (annual) P
John Rowland (6/30/21) P
Jason Didawick (1/1/21) A

Board of Education:

Aaron Close (annual) P
Bryan Heironimus (6/30/20) A
Ryan Fincham (11/30/19) P

Town of Bath:

Gordon MacLeod (6/30/20) A
Joe Anderton (6/30/21) A
Melissa Bartley (6/30/2022) P

Others present were: Dianna Salo, Melanie Craft, Kenneth Craft, Noah Walley, Mike Banks, Tom Zanhaw, and Randy Beal.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tuttle at 7:04pm.

The review and approval of the 1/15/2020 minutes were postponed.

Current financial reports were presented and approved unanimously with the amendment that Bidly Buddy expenses would be revised. (Moved-Fincham, Second-Rowland).

Public Comment:

Dianna Salo addressed the Board regarding an incident at a Bidly Buddy basketball game involving her daughter. She explained the incident and her perspectives on it and on other aspects of the program. She encouraged the Board to look into 1) Requiring sportsmanship training every year for all players and all coaches, 2) Amending the Code of Conduct to include players regarding physical altercations and not only coaches and spectators, and 3) Monitoring and reviewing coaching behavior and history of players conduct under specific coaches. The Board discussed some of these issues with Ms. Salo and agreed that those issues would be considered. Noah Walley also offered some suggestions.

Replacement of Gordon MacLeod on The Board:

The Town of Bath has appointed Spencer Shives to serve the remainder of Gordon MacLeod's term. Mr. MacLeod has stepped down after approximately 15 years of service. Mr. Fincham moved that the Board accept this appointment, and noted that Mr. MacLeod did a great job and was faithful in attendance. Mr. Close seconded the motion, and elaborated that Mr. MacLeod served on this Board for 15 years or so and has surely left the Board and its programs in better shape than when he began, and he also noted that the Board is in good hands with its current membership. Motion passed unanimously.

Morgan County Community Action (MCCA):

Ken Craft and Noah Walley addressed the Board regarding all community organizations. Mr. Craft told the Board that the Robotics Club, Boys and Girls Club, and Staring Points lost their home when the County decided to put their building up for sale known as the Old Bath High School. Noah Walley expressed the need for a community center, indoor gym, incubator for non-profits, etc. He noted that he and MCCA have a strategy for funding from DC and Northern VA to provide this and also for training for new jobs. He stated that he has reviewed all the information available on the building and there are some unknowns but he feels that a renovation is possible to provide 30,000 square feet of space including a separate building in the back of the 2.5 acres for an indoor sports and activities facility and it would be about a 2 million dollar project. Mr. Shives asked about asbestos remediation, and Mr. Walley said he is looking into it. He stated that "First Roots" 501-3-c non-profit is being changed to the MCCA. Mr. Walley asked if the Board would like to be a partner in the project. Mr. Close moved to draft a MOU to partner with MCCA once a non-profit in order to research providing a community center, seconded by Mrs. Bartley, carried unanimously.

Use of 16 acres of County land:

Mr. Walley mentioned that the 16 acres could also provide an opportunity for a community center, but the existing building in Town is more cost effective. Tom Zanhaw addressed the Board regarding the 16 acres of land. He said that a Pee Wee football field is needed. He said that he has found an interested party (Millers Pulpwood) to clear cut the property for timber at no cost. He said that he believes that US Silica may help in developing the land, as well as Glen

Stotler, and even Shelly Moore-Capito. He said he understands there was an old plan for an amphitheater and walking trail, but he feels that the land should be cleared, and then something built or developed for the community, but funding is always the issue. Mr. Close mentioned that DEP and EPA are also issues. As directed by the Board, Director Beal handed out a draft survey for the community regarding the 16 acres. She asked that members review it and provide her comments.

Volleyball:

The recreation league volleyball will be for 5th through 8th graders and run from late March through early May. Same format as last year. Registrations opening soon.

Biddy Buddy Basketball:

Director Beal informed the Board of needed hoops and rims. Three years ago two portable rims were provided to Warm Springs Intermediate School (WSIS) and one to Widmeyer Elementary. They are wearing out as well as the wheels are tearing up the floor when moved. Paw Paw sets up rims on existing hoops. Director Beal is recommending two hoops to be used similarly at Hancock and three new ones for Berkeley Springs. She will get specific prices and report back to the Board.

Director Beal requested \$500.00 for the Biddy Buddy Glow Party open to only program participants. Motion made as requested by Mr. Close, seconded by Mr. Fincham, carried unanimously.

Harlem Wizards:

March 17th is the event date. Director Beal asked for volunteers for money taking and Chairman Tuttle and Mr. Anderton volunteered. Mr. Close and Mr. Shives are available for clean-up. Mrs. Bartley can help where needed. Mr. Fincham will be assisting the Morgan County Tennis Association (MCTA) with souvenir sales.

Process/Procedure for naming fields:

Chairman Tuttle mentioned that he has been asked about this issue. He said the Softball Field and soccer complex has been named. He asked do we have a procedure for this or do we need one. The Board discussed that there are so many individuals over certain periods of time that would be deserving. It was consensus that naming of such things typically occurs in honor of someone after they have passed away. The Board also noted that plaques or other recognitions are appropriate for people at any time. Board members were encouraged to research other jurisdictions policies on the issue.

Little League:

Mrs. Bartley informed the Board that wind damage had occurred to some of the facility. Chairman Tuttle said that County Maintenance would be addressing those issues when they go out to put up the nets. Mrs. Bartley mentioned that Pentoney Brothers Excavating would be doing the \$11,600 worth of drainage repairs soon, and that the Blue Building will have electric turned on in March.

Soccer Fields:

The Board discussed the \$11,000 approved for soccer field repair, specifically the U-11 field. It is still being decided upon what the correct action will be.

Other Items:

Mr. Fincham informed the Board that the MCTA tennis project fundraising reached \$200,000. The Board of Education will be opening submitted bids on March 11, 2020. MCTA hopes that courts can be built this fall.

Director's Update:

Director Beal reported that the Morgan County Partnership is researching grants in order to provide lights and cameras at North Berkeley Parks

Mr. Fincham moved for adjournment, Mr. Close Seconded, adjourned by consensus at 9:45pm.