

MINUTES

Baltimore County Planning Board Meeting

November 20, 2014

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Minutes

November 20, 2014

Call to order, introduction of Board members, pledge of allegiance to the Flag, and announcements

Chairman Scott Phillips called the meeting of the Baltimore County Planning Board to order at 4:45 p.m. The following members were:

Present

Mr. N. Scott Phillips
Mr. Paul Miller
Mr. Wayne McGinnis
Ms. Christina Berzins
Mr. Mark Schlossberg
Ms. Lori Graf
Mr. Scott Jenkins
Mr. Jon Herbst
Ms. Nancy Hafford
Mr. Rainier Harvey
Mr. Jeffrey Gordon
Mr. Scott Holupka

Absent

Mr. Eric Lamb
Mr. Randy Thompson
Mr. Howard Perlow

County staff present included Andrea Van Arsdale, Jeff Mayhew, Lynn Lanham, Matt Diana, Joe Wiley, Lloyd Moxley, Pat McDougall, Barry Williams and Janice Graves

Review of Today's Agenda

Chairman Phillips asked if there were any changes to the tentative Agenda. Staff indicated that there were no changes to the tentative agenda.

Minutes of the November 6, 2014 meeting

Ms. Hafford moved to accept the Minutes of the November 6, 2014 meeting as circulated. Mr. Schlossberg seconded the motion, which unanimously passed at 4:46 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Lamb, Perlow, and Thompson.

Items for Public Hearing

1. The Baltimore County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

Mr. Williams, Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks, presented the Baltimore County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan Update (BC LPPRP) to the Planning Board. The BC LPPRP is a State of Maryland mandated document that must be submitted every 6 years. It is proposed as an addendum to the Baltimore County Master Plan 2020. The plan maintains the County's eligibility for Maryland Program Open Space (POS) funding. The plan also serves to update the 2005-2006 plan, with revisions that reflect current parks and recreation priorities, policies, goals and objectives, including those established in Master Plan 2020. The BC LPPRP also serves as the Department of Recreation and Parks Agency Master Plan. The Plan presents Recreation and Parks' goals, objectives and policies as well as recommended Capital Project priorities. It is also used by the State to prepare the statewide LPPRP.

POS is the State's primary park funding program. The County has received over \$124 million dollars in POS funding since the program's inception. Funding can be used for park acquisition, development and capital rehabilitation. BC LPPRP guidelines and requirements are set by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Maryland Department of Planning.

Since the prior LPPRP 14 properties totaling over 760 acres were acquired through purchase. Approximately \$13.7 million in POS funding were expended on 11 of the 14 acquisitions from fiscal years 2006 through 2011. Key acquisitions include the Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park, the Perring Racquet Club (now NE Regional Recreation Center), and Concrete Homes Park Addition (now the Watersedge Community Center). There have also been 22 significant park development and enhancement projects completed since the prior BC LPPRP. Wilson Point Park, the County's newest waterfront park, was completed in 2007.

The standard state set goal for the Counties is to provide 30 acres of parkland per 1,000 citizens. State parks and leased recreation sites do not count towards the goal. Open spaces and school recreation center acreage do not apply at a rate of 100%. The County had approximately 20.4 acres of parkland per 1,000 citizens as of 2010. A key aspect of this plan is the recommendation that Baltimore County's parkland acreage goal be revised from 30 acres per 1,000 citizens to 25 acres per 1,000 citizens. This acreage goal better reflects the relative wealth of state parks and lands under agriculture preservation easements in the County. Counties who achieve their acreage goal may use more of their POS funding for park development and rehabilitation.

Mr. Miller asked what the benefits of reducing the goal from 30 acres per 1,000 to 25 acres per 1,000 were, other than making it easier. Mr. McDougall from the Department of Recreation and Parks stated that that number primarily has to do with Program Open Space. The rule is that if a County has not achieved its goal (25 acres/1,000 people in Baltimore County's case) then 50% of the POS funding must be spent on acquisition to achieve the goal. Once the goal is achieved then the County can spend the funding on whatever park related issues it chooses (i.e. park development, acquisition or rehabilitation). Essentially, by reducing the number of acres from 30 to 25 per 1,000 residents the County is allowing itself more flexibility with regard to how funds are used.

Ms. Berzins asked whether or not the county or program has a way for people to donate land to help achieve the goal? Mr. Williams responded that yes that does happen but that the County does not always desire the land this is being offered.

Mr. McGinnis commented that there is a major need for indoor recreation facilities in the northern part of the county. He also noted that the Agricultural Center is an excellent facility and that another arena would be beneficial but that funding will be difficult to come by. Mr. McGinnis also noted that Agricultural Preservation funding needs to be increased so that the County can increase the amount of preserved land. He stated that every year it seems that funding gets cut.

In light of the fact that that there was no public comment or opposition, Mr. Mayhew requested that the Planning Board vote on the issue at this meeting as opposed to waiting until the next meeting in January. The Planning Board agreed. Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt the LPPRP. The motion was seconded by Ms. Berzins and passed unanimously at 5:28 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Lamb, Perlow, and Thompson.

Other Business

2. Report from the Landmarks Preservation Commission

Mr. Herbst gave a report from the most recent meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The LPC placed one building on the Preliminary Landmarks List (the “Allmond Confectionary Store” structure and setting at 201 Main Street, Turner Station). The LPC voted to issue three Certificates of Appropriateness, two notices to proceed and requested the reinstallation of wood windows where the owners had installed vinyl windows without LPC approval. The LPC voted to issue three Certificates of Appropriateness and deferred approval for a tax credit application for a waterproofing project until further information is provided. The LPC voted to adopt the proposed checklist for tax credit applications for basement waterproofing and water ejection system.

3. Recent County Council Legislation of interest to the Board

Mr. Diana gave an update on the recent County Council Legislation of interest to the Board. Bill 63-14 is a Bill generally relating to commercial recreation enterprises in the Manufacturing, Heavy (MH) Zone. Resolution 104-14 was in regard to Applications for Development Rights Easements. It is a Resolution to approve certain applications for the sale of development rights easements on property located on farms that meet the State criteria for application in accordance with Agricultural Article, Section 2- 509 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Adjournment of the Board Meeting

Chairman Phillips asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Miller made the motion to adjourn and Mr. McGinnis seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 5:30 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Lamb, Perlow, and Thompson.