



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6611 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Commission Meeting
Open Session Minutes
March 17, 2021

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met via videoconference with the Chair initiating the meeting at the Wheaton Headquarters Auditorium in Wheaton, Maryland. The meeting was broadcast by the Montgomery Planning Department.

PRESENT

Prince George's County Commissioners

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chair
Dorothy Bailey
William Doerner (arrived 10:13)
Manuel Geraldo
A. Shuanise Washington

Montgomery County Commissioners

Casey Anderson, Vice-Chair
Gerald Cichy
Natali Fani-Gonzalez
Tina Patterson
Partap Verma

Chair Hewlett called meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ITEM 1 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

No modifications

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the agenda
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion
Doerner absent for vote

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Open Session – February 17, 2021

Closed Session – February 17, 2021

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the minutes
Seconded by Vice Chair Anderson
8 approved the motion
Patterson abstain
Doerner absent for vote

ITEM 3 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Colo-rectal Cancer Awareness Month
- b) Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month
- c) Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
- d) National Nutrition Month
- e) Worldwide Home Schooling Awareness Month
- f) Irish-American Heritage Month/St. Patrick's Day
- g) Chair Hewlett recognized Women's History Month, and the strong women who lead and support this agency, and gave thanks to the good men who support and work with them.
- h) Stress Awareness Month and Alcohol Awareness Month Coming in April
- i) Financial Disclosure Filing Requirement April 30 (State and M-NCPPC)
- j) Chair Hewlett asked those attending the meeting to think about the victims of the recent Georgia murders. She said we cannot tolerate the increasing violence against Asian-

Americans, just as we cannot condone violence against our black and brown people. America is welcoming, and we should strive to welcome everyone to this country and be targeting any groups of people. She encouraged all to be cognizant of those issues and to speak up against discrimination against anybody.

- k) Chair Hewlett Congratulated Wanda Ramos, named Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County.
- l) World Down Syndrome Day March 21, which raises awareness Downs Syndrome, people with Downs Syndrome, and the vital role they play in the lives of the friends, family, and people around them. Commissioner Doerner thanked Chair Hewlett for recognizing the day, provided details on Downs Syndrome, acknowledged the challenges in caring for a child with Downs, thanked his wife for her partnership in the care of his daughter. He thanked his fellow Commissioners for their support, and said he has a greater awareness and appreciation for the programs and resources the M-NCPPC offers for all children. Chair Hewlett said the dedication Commissioner Doerner has provided to his family has been inspiring.

ITEM 4 COMMITTEE MINUTES/BOARD REPORTS (For Information Only)

- a) *No Executive Committee held in March 2021*
- b) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, February 5, 2021

ITEM 5 ACTION AND PRESENTATION ITEMS

- a) Resolution 21-04 PEPCO Easement (Sun)

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to adopt Resolution 21-04
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
10 approved the motion

After the vote, Vice-Chair Anderson said any staff dealing with PEPCO needs to know the agency needs cooperation with the utility corridor between Bethesda and Germantown. Cooperation is needed in both directions. He asked Prince George's Parks and Recreation Director Tyler to have his land acquisition staff to speak with Montgomery Trails Planner Flusche about working with PEPCO.

- b) Update to of Preliminary FY22 Spending Affordability Guidelines for Montgomery County (Kroll) (information item)

Corporate Budget Director Kroll spoke to the packet item, in which he had provided corrections to a memo presented to the Commission February on the FY22 Spending Affordability Guidelines for Montgomery County.

He noted that the corrected memo has now been superseded by a more recent update from the Montgomery County Executive's budget. The update, released on Monday, now calls for a 2.8% or \$4.3M reduction, which is a substantially better position than at the Spending Affordability Guidelines stage.

- c) Legislative Update (Gardner)

General Counsel Gardner requested Commissioners to consider positions on three bills in front of the state legislature:

HB991 modifies the Forest Conservation Plan to allow tree mitigation banks that include existing forest. Anticipates a favorable vote with minor technical amendments.

HB980 relates to Ethics Act in Prince George's County. General Counsel Gardner is optimistic that the bill will proceed with the Countywide Map Amendment.

The Mandatory Referral bill has not passed the House yet. General Counsel Gardner is trying to determine the cause of the delay and will report later.

Commissioner Geraldo asked about the status of the police reform bill in relation to the Law Enforcement Bill of Rights and what position the M-NCPPC is taking with it. General Counsel Gardner noted these are two competing bills and said the most likely be resolved through the conference committee. The Senate and House are taking very different approaches. The M-NCPPC has not taken a position on the Police Reform bill, adding the agency is not a driver, as our park police have not experienced the same kind of issues many other agencies have faced.

No action required.

ITEM 6

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

a) Late Evaluation Report (March 2021) (For information only)

Secretary Treasurer Report

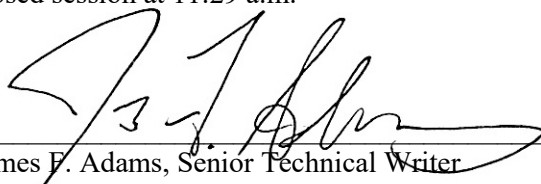
b) 2nd Quarter MFD Report (For information only)

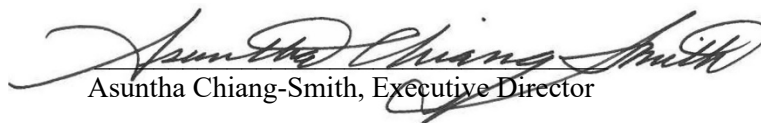
General Counsel Report

c) Litigation Report (For information only)

Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b) (7) & (9), a closed session is proposed to consult with counsel for legal advice, discuss public security issues related to the agency's information systems and consider matters that relate to negotiation.

Chair Hewlett asked for a motion to move to closed session. Commissioner Geraldo moved, Commissioner Patterson seconded. All Commissioners in attendance voted for the measure and the meeting moved to closed session at 10:34 a.m. There being no further business in open session Chair Hewlett adjourned the meeting from closed session at 11:29 a.m.


James F. Adams, Senior Technical Writer


Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Executive Director