



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6611 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Commission Meeting
Open Session Minutes
March 18, 2015

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met on March 18, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at the Prince George’s County Parks and Recreation Auditorium in Riverdale, Maryland.

PRESENT

Prince George’s County Commissioners

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chair
Manuel Geraldo
Dorothy Bailey

Montgomery County Commissioners

Casey Anderson, Vice-Chair
Norman Dreyfuss
Natali Fani-Gonzalez
Marye-Wells Harley

ABSENT

A. Shuanise Washington
John Shoaff

Amy Presley

Chair Hewlett convened the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

ITEM 1 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to approve the agenda
Seconded by Bailey
7 Approved the motion

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2015 – Open Session
February 18, 2015 – Closed Session
ACTION: Motion of Bailey to approve the minutes
Seconded by Geraldo
7 Approved the motion

ITEM 3 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Hewlett made the following announcements:

March commemorates the following holidays and events:

- Saint Patrick’s Day
- American Red Cross Month
- Irish American Heritage Month
- Optimism Month
- Women’s History Month – Chair Hewlett acknowledged Commissioner Wells-Harley, founder of the agency’s Women’s History Month program, the Women’s

History Month celebration committee, and everyone who worked on the program. She commended all the speakers including Commissioner Natali Fani-Gonzalez, Commissioner A. Shuanise Washington (in absentia), and Dr. Maureen Dougherty for their remarks. Chair Hewlett also commended Senior Management Analyst Lisa Dupree for her coordination and contributions to the program.

Chair Hewlett shared M-NCPPC staff will make their first budget presentations before the Prince George's County and Montgomery County Councils this week.

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

- a) Minutes – Executive Committee Open Session – March 4, 2015
- b) Minutes – Executive Committee Closed Session – March 4, 2015
- c) Minutes – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting – February 3, 2015

ITEM 5 ACTION AND PRESENTATION ITEMS

- a) Adoption of Resolution #15-01, Sandy Spring Rural Village Plan (Wright)
Montgomery County Planning Director Gwen Wright requested adoption of Resolution 15-01, Sandy Spring Rural Village Plan. Ms. Wright explained the Plan was unanimously approved by the Montgomery County Council.
ACTION: Motion of Wells-Harley to approve the Resolution
 Seconded by Dreyfuss
 7 approved the motion

- b) Program Open Space (POS) Briefing: Status of POS in the Commission's Capital Improvement Programs (Montgomery County Parks Capital Improvement Program Manager Carl Morgan; Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program Manager Shuchi Vera; General Counsel Adrian Gardner; Legislative Consultant Melony Griffith)
Capital Improvement Program (CIP) managers Carl Morgan and Shuchi Vera presented a PowerPoint explaining M-NCPPC's Program Open Space (POS) which is a funding source the agency receives from the State of Maryland. The presentation briefed the Commissioners about changes to the funding source and identified impacts to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties' Capital Improvement Plans.

The presentation explained that the POS was supported by a dedicated funding source through the real estate transfer tax. The POS typically funds 15% of the Montgomery Parks CIP budget and 6% of the CIP budget for Prince George's Parks and Recreation. Under the new Governor's budget, the State has allocated less POS funding than what was initially expected in FY16. There are more M-NCPPC projects in FY16 than there is support capacity for POS. This requires the agency to significantly scale back planned projects or return to Council for additional funds or support capital improvement projects through bonds. Under the new allocation, funds initially designated for the POS are being diverted to the State general fund for other uses. The State has been borrowing money from this source in the past and funding other projects. The funds are being replaced with bonds that are paid over a certain number of years.

General Counsel Gardner joined the presentation and distributed information being used as part of a campaign to educate the legislators about the POS. He introduced

Melony Griffith. Ms. Griffith was one of the Prince George's County legislators and has 16 years with the General Assembly. She was a member of the House Capital Budget Committee for 14 years and she served as Chairman of the Prince George's County Delegation. General Counsel Gardner shared that a number of legislators have changed this year. Ms. Griffith has been working diligently with M-NCPPC staff and the General Counsel's office for the past four weeks to educate her former colleagues and new legislators on the importance of the POS.

Ms. Griffith shared that while she was a member of the Conference Committee for the Operating and Capital Budgets, decisions were made to use the transfer tax funding to take care of budget shortfalls. As a member of the Conference Committee, Ms. Griffith informed the group that funds borrowed from the POS had to be paid back. She was surprised when she saw the commitment to repay the funds was removed from the Governor's budget.

Ms. Griffith and M-NCPPC's legislative team have met with political leaders explaining the history and the importance of the POS, and how decisions to divert funding will have immediate and long term impact on the communities in their respective Counties. She reminded the Prince George's County Subcommittee of the legislative intent to ensure that the POS received funding. The Sub-committee was asked to return to the initial commitment to the communities. Ms. Griffith praised the Commission for their commitment to parks programs and to its communities. She also acknowledged the dedication of the legal staff, Parks Director Riley, Parks and Recreation Director Gathers, and staff assigned to those departments in helping raise awareness.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Griffith and the staff for an informative presentation and ongoing efforts on the POS. Commissioners will receive a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.

- c) Financial Disclosure Filing Requirement Briefing (Barney)
Executive Director Barney briefed Commissioners on State-mandated changes for filing Financial Disclosures. The new law requires filing the financial disclosure statements online. She requested that Commissioners file online disclosures, print copies before submitting, and forward two copies of the completed forms to her attention by April 15th. This will allow her to ensure compliance by maintaining a copy for M-NCPPC records and forwarding a copy to the respective County Administrative Officers. Instructions for filing Disclosures will be sent to Commissioners on Friday.

ITEM 6

OFFICERS' REPORTS

- a) Executive Director (Barney)
Employee Evaluations Not Completed by Due Date (February 2015) (For Information Only)
The report is in the packet. Directors are working diligently to have the evaluations completed.

b) Secretary-Treasurer (Zimmerman) (For Information Only)

1) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Briefing (Zimmerman)

Secretary-Treasurer Zimmerman stated the Directors met on the Supply Chain module. Modifications were approved by Directors to enhance functionality. Reporting enhancements are being made in the financial system, and budget managers will soon receive access to these reports. For the Human Capital Management module, departments have been provided reports to help validate employee assigned codes.

2) MFD Second Quarter 2015 Report

The report shows 28.8% or \$21.1 million was spent with minority, female and disabled (MFD) owned firms, which is good. Secretary-Treasurer Zimmerman referred Commissioners to the packet for more information.

c) General Counsel (Gardner)

1) Litigation Report - (February 2015) (For Information Only)

The report is in the packet. No comments were made.

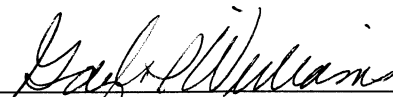
2) Legislative Update

General Counsel Gardner stated that things are good so far. Chair Hewlett echoed the General Counsel's remarks.

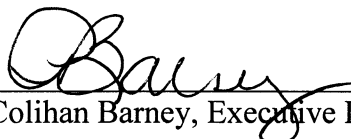
Following a 10-minute break that began at 10:50 a.m., Chair Hewlett requested a motion to move to closed session at 11:00 a.m.

ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to move to closed session
Seconded by Bailey
7 approved the motion

Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7) and (b)(9) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, at 11:00 a.m., Chair Hewlett requested a motion to move to closed session to discuss Collective Bargaining Update and Legal Process, and for purposes of consultation with counsel to discuss the Internal Revenue Service Audit matter.



Gayla Williams, Senior Technical Writer/
Senior Management Analyst



Patricia Colihan Barney, Executive Director