



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6611 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Commission Meeting
Open Session Minutes
May 19, 2021

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met via videoconference with the Chair initiating the meeting at the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The meeting was broadcast by the Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County.

PRESENT

Prince George's County Commissioners

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chair
Dorothy Bailey
William Doerner
Manuel Geraldo

Montgomery County Commissioners

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

NOT PRESENT

A. Shuanise Washington

Chair Hewlett called meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

ITEM 1

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

No modifications

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the agenda
Seconded by Vice Chair Anderson
9 approved the motion

ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Open Session – April 21, 2021

Closed Session – April 21, 2021

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the minutes
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion

ITEM 3

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) National Mental Health Awareness Month. Chair Hewlett noted this issue has never more critical than in these past 14 months. She said the agency has many resources, and employees should please take advantage of them
- b) National Fitness Month / National Fitness Day (May 1)
- c) Military Appreciation Month
- d) Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
- e) Jewish American Heritage Month
- f) Haitian Heritage Month
- g) National Bike Month; Friday May 21 is Bike to Work Day
- h) Older Americans Month

- i) Chair Hewlett announced that the Government Finance Officers' Association has awarded a Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting to the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System. This is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting. She congratulated the ERS Board of Trustees, ERS staff, and ERS Administrator, Andrea Rose.
- j) Chair Hewlett congratulated Commissioner Patterson on receiving her master's degree in Dispute Resolution from the Strauss Institute at Pepperdine University, and on her appointment to a second term on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

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

- a) Executive Committee Meeting – Open Session, May 5, 2021
- b) Executive Committee Meeting – Closed Session, May 5, 2021
- c) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, March 2, 2021

ITEM 5 ACTION AND PRESENTATION ITEMS

- a) Resolution 21-05 Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment (Yearwood)
No discussion.
ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to adopt Resolution 21-05
Seconded by Vice Chair Anderson
9 approved the motion
- b) Resolution 21-08 Extension of the Executive Committee's Authority to Approve and Implement COVID-19 Response Decisions (Chiang-Smith)
No discussion.
ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to adopt Resolution 21-08
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion
- c) Acknowledge Melissa D. Ford as the Prince George's County Open Trustee and Caroline McCarthy as the Montgomery County Open Trustee for the Employee's Retirement System Board of Trustees for the three-year term ending June 30, 2024 (Rose)
Chair Hewlett thanked Ms. Ford and Ms. McCarthy for their ongoing service.
ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the item
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion
- d) Bi-County Salary Savings Memos (Chiang-Smith/Gardner/Zimmerman)
Deputy General Counsel Borden shared a page that was accidentally omitted from the packet from the Legal Department's memo.
ACTION: Motion of Vice-Chair Anderson to approve request for Items 5d 1-4 with the addition of the page shared by Deputy General Counsel Borden.
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion

- e) Resolution 21-07 Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Jennai/McCord/Black)
Ms. Jennai, Mr. McCray, and Ms. Black of the Diversity Counsel shared their presentation on a Commission Resolution on the Commission's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), including updated definitions as a unifying philosophy of the agency.

Executive Director Chiang-Smith thanked the Diversity Counsel, who vetted this project through Corporate Human Resources and the Legal Department, along with input from the departments. This is part of a larger initiative, and defining these terms is a critical step.

Commissioners thanked the team and supported the initiative and Resolution. Chair Hewlett praised the counsel, noting how each year's Diversity Council has successfully built on the progress of previous councils.

ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to adopt Resolution 21-07
Seconded by Commissioner Patterson
9 approved the motion

- f) Annual Legislative Update (Gardner)

Before introducing General Counsel Gardner, Chair Hewlett noted this item does not require a vote. General Counsel Gardner presented his Annual Report on the Legislative Session for 2021. He provided an overview, highlights, and credited the attorneys, departmental staff and Commissioners and leadership who participated in the successful session. He added special thanks to the Legislative Management Team who met weekly to coordinate legislative issues, bringing valuable perspectives from the field to the discussion; to the Fiscal Estimates Team to quickly analyze the fiscal impact of proposed state legislation; to the COVID Legislation Team which made sure Human Resources and workplace issues raised by state legislation were analyzed and addressed; and to the Police Reform Team which worked closely on the impacts of state legislation on police reform and the impact it would have on our Park Police.

Several Commissioners praised specific bills, including for the work on the Countywide Zoning Map Amendment (HB980) and Tree Bill (HH991). Commissioner Patterson asked if the tree bill provided any funding for maintenance for diseased or infested trees. General Counsel Gardner said the bill was focused on tree planning projects for urban areas and for private entities.

Commissioners thanked General Counsel Gardner and his teams for a successful session.

ITEM 6

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

- a) Late Evaluation Report (April 2021) (For information only)

Secretary Treasurer Report

No report for May 2021

General Counsel Report

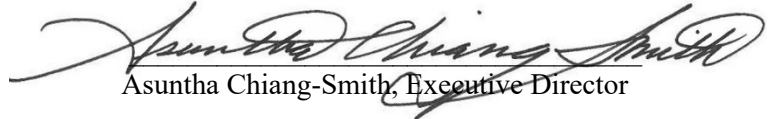
- b) Litigation Report (For information only)

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 9 Commissioners in attendance voted for the measure and the meeting moved to closed session at 10:56 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, Chair Hewlett adjourned the meeting from closed session at 11:48 a.m.


James F. Adams, Senior Technical Writer


Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Executive Director