



Commission Meeting
Open Session Minutes
September 18, 2019

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met at the Montgomery Regional Office Auditorium in Silver Spring, Maryland.

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 (absent 11-11:45 am)
Tina Patterson
Partap Verma

NOT PRESENT

A. Shuanise Washington

Chair Hewlett convened the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

ITEM 1 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

Acting Executive Director Bennett requested to move item 4d, "Audit Committee Activity Report" to section 5 for presentation. She also requested to add a new item, "Vice-Chair Appointment to Merit Board" to the Presentation section.

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the amended Commission agenda
Seconded by Commissioner Bailey
9 approved the motion

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Open Session – June 19, 2019 (returned from July meeting)
Open Session – July 17, 2019
Closed Session – July 17, 2019

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

ITEM 3 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Hewlett made the following announcements:

- a) Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15 through October 15. There are many celebrations scheduled throughout the agency, including a One-Commission celebration on October 15.
- b) Kinderfest on October 5
- c) September 18 is HIV/Aids Awareness Day and Aging Awareness Day
- d) September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Vice-Chair Anderson introduced newly-appointed Commissioner Partap Verma, adding he already knows so much about the work of the agency because of his engagement in community

related functions. Chair Hewlett added the Prince George's County Planning Board looks forward to getting to know and working with Commissioner Verma.

Commissioner Geraldo thanked the members of the J Franklin Bourne Bar Association for celebrating Constitution Day on September 17 with Prince George's County students. All Prince George's County middle schools had the opportunity to participate, and it was a wonderful experience.

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

- a) Executive Committee – Open Session September 4, 2019
- b) Executive Committee – Closed Session September 4, 2019
- c) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Meeting – July 9, 2019

ITEM 5 ACTION AND PRESENTATION ITEMS

- a) Resolution #19-17 Land Exchange between M-NCPPC and Prince George's County (Sun/Asan)

No discussion.

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Fani-Gonzalez to approve the Resolution
Seconded by Geraldo
9 approved the motion

- b) Resolution #19-18 Mutual Aid and Reciprocal Enforcement Agreement between M-NCPPC and Chevy Chase Village (Gardner/Dickerson)

No discussion.

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Fani-Gonzalez to approve the Resolution
Seconded by Commissioner Geraldo
9 approved the motion

- c) Cost Allocation of Bi-County Budgets (Kroll)

No discussion.

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Fani-Gonzalez to approve the allocation
Seconded by Commissioner Geraldo
9 approved the motion

- d) Office of the Chief Information Officer's County-Wide Information Technology (CWIT) Initiatives (Chilet)

Discussion moved to closed session

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Fani-Gonzalez to approve the Initiatives
Seconded by Commissioner Geraldo
9 approved the motion

- e) Agency-wide Sustainability Plan (Aparicio/Nolan)

Sustainability Coordinator Amanda Aparicio and Special Programs Division Chief Anthony Nolan provided an overview and update on both counties' sustainability plans. The presentation focused on four of the ten joint plan elements from fiscal years 2018-2019: community & patrons education and engagement; utility/energy conservation; water conservation & management; and Recycling and Solid Waste Management. The presentation also covered the new sustainability plan for FY20-21.

Mr. Nolan described the FY18-19 Prince George's County's initiatives and Ms. Aparicio described Montgomery County's initiatives.

Commissioner Doerner asked if there was any way to integrate community composting areas into the parks systems to arrange or allow drop-off. Ms. Aparicio noted that while the Montgomery County Parks system is working on advanced composting, they are only set up to accept yard trimmings, and not a full range of composting materials (e.g. food waste). They are currently identifying space that could accommodate a wider range. Mr. Nolan said Prince George's County has a similar operation at Randall Farm, which can accept landscape and yard waste, manure from Old Maryland Farm and the Equestrian Center, as well as dredging material from the Anacostia. He noted the county has a pilot program to accept a wider variety of compostable material, but it is in a limited service area. The long-term goal is to expand this service area.

Ms. Aparicio discussed sustainability plans for FY20-21, for both joint projects between the counties and individual county initiatives. Joint projects include updating the Sustainability Standards policy (Practice 6-40); waste reduction and recycling; reduction of carbon footprint and establishing baselines using the EnergyCap software program to track ongoing progress.

Ms. Aparicio and Mr. Nolan also discussed independent initiatives in each county over the next two years. Montgomery County departments will focus on fleet and equipment management; and transportation management with Walkable/Bikeable Communities; Land Use; and the General Plan Update (Thrive 2050). Initiatives in Prince George's County included stormwater management through upgrading existing sites to meet the M-NCPPC's mandate to protect stream valleys; and increased employee and community engagement, describing some of the programs with which they will be working with the Public Affairs Office to launch.

Commissioner Chichy asked if there had been any coordination with neighboring counties in terms of conservation and sustainability of the Patuxent River corridor in relation to stormwater management. Mr. Nolan replied the M-NCPPC does interact with the Patuxent Critical Area Commission and with the other counties. The overall condition of the Patuxent is still being impacted by new development. Within the Prince George's County Planning Department there is a concerted effort to roll out new watershed assessment plans and initiatives. Ms. Aparicio said while there is an active stream monitoring program in Montgomery County, she would need to check what other initiatives there are in the county.

Commissioner Cichy praised the plan for its biking endorsements, noting while there are programs encouraging people to bike to and around the parks, there are not many structures to secure bicycles if people wish to bike to a park and attend an event or activity.

Chair Hewlett thanked the team for their time and for an excellent presentation, noting they gave a comprehensive presentation at Executive Committee, where they answered several other questions as well.

f) Vice-Chair Appointment to Merit Board (Bennett)

Chair Hewlett asked for a motion to appoint member Mr. Strand to the position of Vice-Chair of the Merit Board. The position became vacant when Tanya Uptegrove-Coleman was appointed as Chair of the Merit Board.

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

g) Audit Committee Activity Report (Bailey/Kenney)

Commissioner Bailey introduced other members of the Audit Committee, Inspector General

Renee Kenney and public member Lori Depies, and thanked them for their teamwork with her on the Committee. Ms. Kenney presented the FY19 Audit Report, which included the internal audit plan and activity of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The OIG communicated 62 Audit Recommendations in FY19, 36 of which were considered high-risk, including timekeeping, management oversight, and controlled asset management. Ms. Kenney also noted the OIG is requesting to opine on the agency's internal controls, and said the M-NCPPC's fiscal, operational and IT controls are adequate, but there are places for improvement. Chair Hewlett thanked the Audit Committee for the volunteering of their time, expertise and thoroughness. Commissioner Bailey agreed, stating the agency has the best Inspector General in the whole country.

Chair Hewlett asked for a motion to enter closed session at 10:45 p.m. Commissioner Geraldo moved, Commissioner Bailey seconded. 9 approved the motion.

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, conduct collective bargaining discussions, and consider matters that relate to negotiation.

Open session resumed at 12:44 p.m.

ITEM 6 a) Proposed Health Plan Rates for Calendar Year 2020 (ratification of vote from closed session)

ACTION: Motion of Geraldo to approve rates
Seconded by Doerner
9 approved the motion

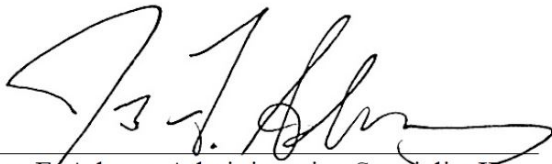
ITEM 7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

- a) Executive Director's Report (For information only)
Employee Evaluations Not Completed by Due Date (August 2019)

- b) Secretary Treasurer (For information only).
115 Trust Annual Report

- c) General Counsel (For information only)
Litigation Report, August 2019

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 12:45 p.m.



James F. Adams, Administrative Specialist II



Anju A. Bennett, Acting Executive Director