



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6611 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737

Commission Meeting  
Open Session Minutes  
November 21, 2018

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met at the Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Administration Building Auditorium in Riverdale, Maryland.

PRESENT

Prince George's County Commissioners

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Vice-Chair  
Dorothy Bailey  
William Doerner  
Manuel Geraldo  
A. Shuanise Washington

Montgomery County Commissioners

Casey Anderson, Chair  
Norman Dreyfuss  
Natali Fani-Gonzalez  
Tina Patterson

NOT PRESENT

Gerald Cichy

Chair Anderson convened the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

ITEM 1

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

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

ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Open Session – October 17, 2018  
ACTION: Motion of Hewlett to approve the Commission minutes  
Seconded by Geraldo  
9 approved the motion

ITEM 3

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) American Indian Heritage Month – November
- b) Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation Winter Festival of Lights at Watkins Regional Park – November 23 through January 1
- c) Upcoming Montgomery County Department of Parks Winter Garden Walk Through Holiday Light Display at Brookside Gardens – November 16 through January 1
- d) One-Commission Holiday Event at Silver Spring Convention Center – December 14

ITEM 4

COMMITTEE MINUTES/BOARD REPORTS (For Information Only)

- a) Executive Committee – Open Session – November 7, 2018
- b) Executive Committee – Closed Session – November 7, 2018
- c) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Meeting – September 11, 2018
- d) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Special Meeting – October 2, 2018

*Pursuant to Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b)(7) a closed session is proposed to consult with counsel for legal advice.*

Vice-Chair Hewlett moved to enter closed session. Commissioner Bailey seconded, 9 approved the motion. Chair Anderson moved the meeting to closed session at 10:08 a.m.

ITEM 5            CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

The meeting returned to open session at 10:44 a.m.

ITEM 6            ACTION AND PRESENTATION ITEMS

a) Resolution #18-37 Ratification of the Appointment of Acting Executive Director (Gardner)  
Commissioners thanked and supported Acting Executive Director Bennett, noting the professionalism and skill she brings to the position.

ACTION: Motion of Washington to approve Resolution #18-37  
Seconded by Geraldo  
9 approved the motion

b) GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for FY2019 (Kroll)  
Chair Anderson read the text of the award and praised Corporate Budget Director John Kroll and budget staff through the agency for their hard work. Mr. Kroll thanked Commissioners, his team and departmental budget staff. Vice Chair Hewlett added her praise to Mr. Kroll and Secretary-Treasurer Zimmerman on their successful Rating Agency trip to New York City.

c) Resolution #18-36 Recommendation to Approve the Employer Contribution for Fiscal Year 2020 (Rose/Boomershine)

Employees' Retirement System Manager Andrea Rose introduced Mr. David Boomershine of Boomershine Consulting Group, who presented background (included in the packet) on the actuarial evaluation resulting in a change in the recommended Employer Contribution.

ACTION: Motion of Hewlett to approve Resolution #18-36  
Seconded by Geraldo  
9 approved the motion

d) Acknowledge Melissa D. Ford as the Prince George's County Open Trustee to the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees (Rose) MG/EHM

Approved without discussion.

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

e) Required Reporting for Healthy Vending Machine Policy (for information only)  
(Spencer/McDonald)

Acting Executive Director Bennett presented background on this item indicating that the Human Resources team provided the Executive Committee with a status report on implementing the healthy vending policy and brought it to the Commission as an information item. The Human Resources team has been meeting with legal and purchasing staff in a workgroup to implement the new standards. Legal and purchasing staff determined that there were so many vending machine contracts with the agency that it would be prohibitive to implement the changes with

each one. Instead, the team has identified some of the more prominent vendors and will be implementing the policy changes with them.

Commissioner Dreyfuss shared he was not in favor of changes to the vending machine offerings over the cost of staff researching and implementing these standards, adding that people should be able to make their own choices. Other Commissioners supported the policy, noting that the policy encourages having choices available, and does not dictate what people will eat. Commissioner Washington asked if there were more than 200 vending machine vendors servicing the agency, had staff had considered consolidating vendors. Acting Executive Director Bennett said there were two vendors being considered as they were identified as already implementing healthy vending standards and had consolidated by purchasing or subcontracting several of the smaller vending companies.

Acting Executive Director Bennett said the workgroup will continue to move forward with implementing the standards and provide an update on the progress. Additionally, once the standards have been in place for a year, the work group will return with an assessment to determine if the goals should be amended.

f) Artificial Sweeteners and Sugar Substitutes Effects on Health (for information only)  
(Spencer/McDonald)

Acting Executive Director Bennett presented background on this item, saying the Healthy Vending Machine Policy requires that 50 percent of vending machine content must be low- or no-sugar items, which could include artificial sweeteners. Staff reported on research studies collected on the impact of artificial sweeteners and sugars substitutes. Acting Executive Director Bennett noted that Commissioner Doerner made suggestions in setting up benchmarks in the implementation of the new vending standards and said the team will create those benchmarks during an upcoming work session.

g) Presentation of Semi-Annual Report, Montgomery Planning and Montgomery Parks  
(Wright)

Montgomery County Planning Director Wright introduced Deputy Director Stern and Acting Deputy Director Kronenberg. They described how they presented their semi-annual report to the Montgomery County Council and thought it would be a great opportunity to share it with Commissioners in both counties. Director Wright said this was a reflection of the work of the One Commission and how we are all working towards similar goals.

Director Wright shared Planning Highlights from 2014-2018: 14 plans approved and adopted, Zoning Code rewrite and District Map Amendment; New Subdivision Staging Policy in 2016; Efficient Development application process with new metrics and online tools; design excellence and placemaking initiatives. Director Wright described the General Plan Update through Planning Functions and Major Projects and reviewed the Wedges and Corridors plan for growth. Director Wright noted population growth trends, forecasted housing demand, and building permit comparisons with other nearby counties. Director Wright described in the presentation Planning for New Suburbanism – using land and space efficiently, not necessarily near transit, promoting walking and biking, multi-modal opportunities, a mixture of building uses/types, heights, and applying it to transit-oriented development (e.g., Chevy Chase Lake, White Flint, Grosvenor/Strathmore) and reimagining older suburban centers (e.g., Westbard, Montgomery Village, Rock Spring). Deputy Director Stern and Acting Deputy Director Kronenberg discussed some of the projects ahead to improve the quality of development and some of the various broad-spectrum studies conducted, all leading to the update of the general plan and discussed some of the department's special projects and programs from 2014-2018. Director Wright discussed


engaging hard-to-reach audiences (e.g., Spanish language translation; digital interactive maps, text-back feedback maps); and discussed planning challenges and opportunities for 2019 and beyond.

Vice Chair Hewlett complimented the work and creativity that went into the presentation and videos, and what a tremendous story the PowerPoint, the videos and the pamphlet told. Chair Anderson added that Montgomery County got the idea for the new layout and content design of the pamphlet from Prince George's County Planning and thanked them for prodding Montgomery County to move toward ideas for a more user-friendly top-level marketing tool. Commissioner Doerner agreed that the report was a great piece of marketing. Commissioner Doerner asked if Montgomery Planning staff could provide Commissioners with information on Accessory Dwelling Units permits, saying it may be a way for Prince George's County to improve their affordable housing process. Director Wright noted some of the projects Montgomery Planning staff was working on with that topic and said her staff would be happy to share the information.

ITEM 7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

- a) Executive Director's Report (For information only)  
Employee Evaluations Not Completed by Due Date (October 2018)
  
- b) Secretary Treasurer (For information only)  
Investment Report (August)
  
- c) General Counsel (For information only)  
Litigation Report

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 11:55 a.m.

  
James F. Adams, Senior Administrative Specialist

  
Anju A. Bennett, Acting Executive Director