



**TOWN OF BERLIN
HERON PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**Thursday, September 19, 2019
6:00PM**

**BERLIN TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10 WILLIAM STREET
BERLIN, MD 21811**

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes from the July 18, 2019 meeting
2. General discussion of alternatives for the future
3. Comments from the Public

****Upcoming meeting dates:**

- November 21, 2019
- January 16, 2020
- March 19, 2020
- May 21, 2020
- July 16, 2020



BERLIN FALLS PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 18, 2019

6:00 PM Berlin Town Hall Council Chambers

Present: Councilmember Troy Purnell, Amy Field, Roger Fitzgerald, Bruce Hyder, Kate Patton, Shaneka Nichols, and Amy Barra.

Staff Present: Project Coordinator David Deutsch, Town Administrator Laura Allen, and Town Clerk Kelsey Jensen.

1. Approval of the Minutes:
Motion to approve June 20, 2019 minutes by Mr. Purnell; second by Ms. Nichols – approved unanimously.
2. Project Coordinator's Report
 - a. Demo status – Ms. Allen said the demolition has been placed on hold until the clean up is completed.
 - b. Haz mat situation – Ms. Allen said the park has been temporarily closed until the hazardous materials have been identified and the park has been fully reviewed so any materials can be removed or neutralized. The Police Department has been monitoring the property and will continue to do so.
 - c. Banner progress – Ms. Allen said until the name has been finalized the banners and State Highway signs have been put on hold.
 - d. Amphitheater estimate status – Mr. Deutsch provided the cost estimates from DBF to the group for three different amphitheater style options. Ms. Patton suggested starting off very basic with the stage the town uses just to get a feel for the location and design. Ms. Patton said she would like to discuss it further with the physical features and layout subcommittee.
3. Next steps for new park name – Ms. Fields reported that her and Mr. Orris went to the Council Meeting on July 8th and presented the name recommendation from the committee. She said the Public Hearing and vote on the matter would take place on August 12th at 7pm and it would be good to have committee members present if possible. The Resolution for the Public Hearing will be advertised for two weeks in the paper.
4. September 21st bonfire event report – Ms. Nichols said the group determined two possible locations for the bonfires. She said the artist will be lending the committee the fire sculptures for the event. The group decided on September 21st from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Ms. Patton and Mr. Fitzgerald offered two other possible locations and the committee agreed. The new locations proposed will be in the amphitheater spot and in the park entrance area. Mr. Purnell said he would reach out to Charlie Townsend since Ms. Nichols hasn't had success in reaching someone. Ms. Nichols said the Town offered to do the advertising for the event. Ms. Allen said it is the Town Attorneys preference to have the artist and attendees sign waivers.
5. Discussion of birding event on November 23rd – Ms. Field said the Delmarva Birding Association wanted to do a birding event at the park. They would begin the event at Burley Oak then go to the park for an hour and a half and then back to Burley Oak for a tally rally to count the number of species identified. It would be a kid friendly and free event but would cost Berlin Falls Park \$390

for the Delmarva Birding Association to organize the event. Ms. Patton said there would not be a full spectrum of birds that time of year and would like to see the event happen on either December 28th or sometime in January; the committee agreed to change the date and see if that works with the association. Ms. Allen will reach out to them and see what works with their schedules. Ms. Field made a motion to approve the event and the cost of \$390; second by Mr. Fitzgerald – approved unanimously.

6. Subcommittee Reports:

a. Physical features & layout – Mr. Fitzgerald said the benches have been delivered and three of the four locations worked out, but one needed to be relocated; the committee agreed to the new location. He said the committee would meet again before the September Meeting.

7. New/modified subcommittee ideas – Ms. Field suggested modifying the subcommittees. Mr. Fitzgerald said the Naming subcommittee can be scratched after a name is approved. Ms. Patton proposed a new Beautification and Entrance subcommittee; the committee agreed; Ms. Field and Ms. Nichols will serve on the subcommittee. Ms. Patton will be reaching out to an artist she knows regarding some ideas for the park.

Ms. Field asked how charging for events would work. Mr. Purnell said non-profits can charge if it is approved by the Mayor and Council unless the policy is revised. Mr. Purnell said he agrees that the policy may need to be revised because he would like to see food trucks at the events. Ms. Patton asked Mr. Deutsch if he can reach out to other municipalities about their policies on charging for events at the park; he said he would.

Ms. Field said it is important that everyone review the Park's Interpretive Plan and discuss it at the September Meeting.

8. Comments from the Public – none.

Motion at adjourn at 6:55pm by Ms. Patton; second by Mr. Purnell.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelsey Jensen
Town Clerk