



PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA

November 2, 2021, 5:30 PM

Meeting is open to the public. All persons in attendance must wear face coverings.

1. Approval of Minutes of September 7, 2021 and September 28, 2021
2. Old Business
 - a) Discussion – Table Tennis at Burbage Park – Tony Weeg, We Heart Berlin
 - b) Update – Disc Golf
 - c) Discussion – Playground Inspections
 - d) Discussion - Program Open Space Community Parks and Playgrounds FY22 Grant
 - e) Friday, November 5, 2021 Glow Walk; SDP. 5 PM (meet at 4:30)
3. New Business
 - a) Discussion - No smoking Ordinance
 - b) Discussion – Refurbishment of Scrap tire path in Decatur Park
4. Berlin Youth Program Update
5. Other

Upcoming Meeting/Event Schedule:

Friday, November 5, 2021 – Fall Glow Walk

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Saturday, April 16, 2022 – Spring Celebration

Saturday, April 23, 2022 – Clean-Up Day (Take Pride in Berlin Week Sat., April 16-Sat., April 23)

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Saturday, May 7, 2022 – Spring Color (?) Walk

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 – National Night Out

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Friday OR Saturday, November 4 OR 5, 2022 – Fall Walk

MINUTES – PARKS COMMISSION
September 7, 2021

The meeting of the Parks Commission for Tuesday, September 7, 2021, was held onsite at Stephen Decatur Park and called to order at 5:30 PM. Parks Commission members present were Chair Mike Wiley, Sarah Hooper, and Laura Stearns, as well as Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen. Also present was Public Works Superintendent Jimmy Charles. Bruce Hyder had notified Ms. Bohlen that he would not be present. Patricia Dufendach was absent.

Mr. Wiley moved to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2021, Ms. Hooper seconded, and approval was unanimous.

Ms. Bohlen informed the Commission that the FY23 Community Parks and Playgrounds Grant application for the lighting at the Henry Park Basketball Courts had been submitted and that the official notification for the grant for the Stephen Decatur permanent restrooms had not yet been received, though it was expected at any time.

Ms. Bohlen noted that the Worcester County Health Department had reached out regarding the 2021-22 schedule for Just Walk events. Walk Maryland Day and Scavenger Hunt was scheduled for Wednesday, October 6, 2021; the scavenger hunt would be self-directed and take place at several local parks. The Fall Just Walk date for Berlin was tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 5, 2021, at 5:00 PM. This was planned to be a “glow” walk with participants carrying glow sticks to create a visual effect. Ms. Bohlen noted that, because the park was not lit in the evening, she would recommend that the course(s) be along the streets and sidewalks to take advantage of the streetlights. Brief discussion followed and it was noted that the start/end point could still be at the park parking lot or could be downtown instead. Ms. Bohlen also noted that Ms. Bell with the Health Department had suggested a color walk for the spring event (scheduled for May 7, 2022) and that additional research/discussion would need to occur before then.

Brief discussion regarding the recent disc golf events was held. Ms. Bohlen noted that she believed the topic was scheduled to be on the agenda for the September 13, 2021, Mayor and Council Meeting. Some of the concerns noted were the proximity of some of the holes to Rt. 113, Tripoli Street, and around the Nature Trail and Pond.

Ms. Donna Pellingier discussed accessible playgrounds and playground equipment for older children. Discussion followed regarding the expense of a recently proposed project, which had been estimated at approximately \$800,000, as well as the amount of work that would be needed to accommodate such a plan. Ms. Bohlen noted that, to her knowledge, the Community Parks and Playgrounds program had never provided such a large amount in grant funds for a single project.

Having completed the items on the written agenda, the Commission members began their walk through with Mr. Charles to review items noted during the playground inspection conducted earlier in the spring. Mr. Charles noted that many issues such as loose bolts, low levels of engineered wood fiber, overhanging branches and more had already been addressed. Additional tree trimming to raise the canopy was planned for over the coming winter. Some issues, such as the placement of some signs and play curbs could not be addressed without considerable expense, however, staff would investigate replacing signs with current language as feasible. Discussion of the disrepair of the rubberized walking path was held and it was noted that the path would need to be completely removed; it was not known if a suitable rubberized

material currently existed. During the walk, the locations of the disc golf holes were noted, and points of concern discussed.

Ms. Bohlen noted that the basketball goals had been removed at Henry Park in preparation of the painting project which was scheduled to begin the following week with an unveiling scheduled for September 26th.

She also noted that the Parks Commission was scheduled to visit Henry Park on Tuesday, October 5th at 5:30 PM. *

With no further items for discussion, and without formal motion or vote, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary T. Bohlen".

Mary T. Bohlen
Deputy Town Administrator
Liaison to the Parks Commission

*The following day, Ms. Bohlen noted a scheduling conflict, so the Henry Park onsite visit was rescheduled to Tuesday, September 28th.

MINUTES – PARKS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
September 28, 2021

A special meeting of the Parks Commission for Tuesday, September 28, 2021, was held onsite at Dr. William Henry Park at 5:00 PM. Parks Commission members present were Chair Mike Wiley, Patricia Dufendach, Bruce Hyder, and Laura Stearns, as well as Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen and Public Works Superintendent Jimmy Charles. Sarah Hooper was absent.

There was brief discussion of the rain garden installed by the Assateague Coastal Trust; there were concerns regarding the overgrowth of the area and Ms. Bohlen noted that it had been the intention of the Trust to maintain the area. Ms. Dufendach noted that she would be seeing Ms. Verena Chase of the Trust later in the week and would discuss the garden with her.

With no formal agenda, the Commission members and Ms. Bohlen and Mr. Charles conducted their walk through of the park. They observed the work completed to date on the basketball courts' painting by We Heart Berlin and discussed that project. Mr. Charles noted that the new backboards had been received and one had been temporarily mounted earlier that day to check the compatibility with the existing poles.

The existing play equipment and signage was inspected and notations as made on the playground inspectors report were reviewed.

Ms. Bohlen noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021 and reminded all of the Glow Walk scheduled for Friday, November 5, 2021. She noted that she needed a few volunteers to help direct walkers.

With no further items for discussion, and without formal motion or vote, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

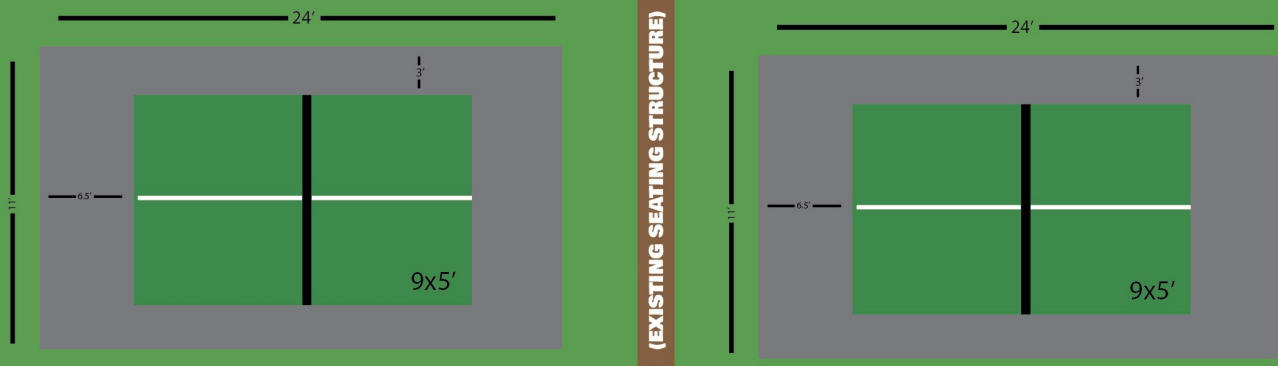


Mary T. Bohlen
Deputy Town Administrator
Liaison to the Parks Commission

(EXISTING POWER PLANT AREA)

(EXISTING TREE LINE)

JOHN HOWARD BURBAGE PARK PING PONG TABLES



*NOT EXACTLY TO SCALE



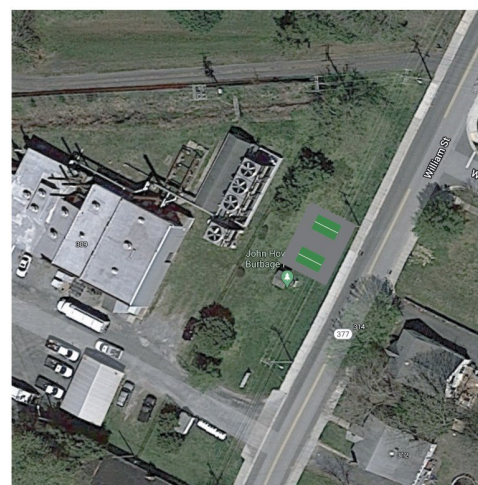
FENCE

4' SCALLOPED WHITE VINYL + BOXWOOD HEDGE ON STREETSIDE

WILLIAMS ST

Needs pricing (Approx):

1. Concrete pads:
 - a. PREP + CONCRETE \$3168 @ \$6/sq foot
2. Tables:
 - a. \$4000 @ \$1999/each
3. Fence:
 - a. Need quote on this.
 - b. Need quote on boxwoods



Possible Qualified Table info:

a. Kettler Galvanized Steel Ping Pong Table:

<https://www.amazon.com/Kettler-Weatherproof-Stationary-Galvanized-Permanent/dp/B07MV57D45/>

THIS IS A PROPOSAL

ORDINANCE 2021-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BERLIN, MARYLAND, A MARYLAND MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, AMENDING CHAPTER 22, TITLED PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE III, SECTION 22-49, TITLED RULES AND REGULATIONS, TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN TOWN PARKS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BERLIN THAT CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE III, SECTION 22-49 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 22-49. - Rules and regulations.

The rules and regulations for the use of the parks are as set forth herein:

- (1) The washing, waxing, cleaning or repairing of any type of motor vehicle shall be prohibited in the parks.
- (2) The operation and/or parking of unauthorized motor vehicles as defined herein in any area of the parks not designated as a parking area or otherwise authorized by the police department of the town or its authorized agent shall be prohibited.
- (3) All applicable provisions of chapter 4, animals, shall apply.
- (4) No motor vehicle shall be parked in the parks, whether in the parking areas or otherwise, overnight.
- (5) No mobile home or any other type of structure shall be used for sleeping in the parks, including the parking areas thereof, without permission being obtained from the Mayor and Council.
- (6) No open container of alcoholic beverages shall be possessed in any of the parks, unless explicitly approved in advance by the Mayor and Council as part of an organized special event. The organizer of said event shall be responsible for obtaining any additional permitting required by Worcester County or the State of Maryland regarding the possession, distribution/sale, and/or consumption of alcohol.
- (7) **SMOKING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, MEDICAL MARIJUANA POSSESSED BY LEGAL PRESCRIPTION, ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES AND VAPING ARE PROHIBITED IN ALL TOWN OWNED PUBLIC PARKS.**

Worcester Youth & Family Counseling Services, Inc

Youth Programs

Quarterly report 7/1/21 – 9/30/21

Berlin Youth Club (BYC) Summer Camp

For the BYC 2021 Summer Camp, we created a safe 8-week program following CDC Camp Guidelines for CoVid-19. In addition, our camp became certified with the state of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and is now listed on the DHMH website: <https://mdhyouthcamps.force.com/CampSearch/s/>. We had two small groups of children (morning and afternoon) who met primarily outside so that they could socially distance. We utilized two outdoor locations including the Taylor House Museum yard area and the Buckingham Presbyterian Church parking lot/outside area. We had a total of 17 participants; with 9 children aged 6 – 9 in the morning group, and 8 children aged 10 - 12 in the afternoon group. The majority of our participants came from low-income families, who would not have been able to otherwise afford summer camp.

During the 8-week period, we offered 8 weekly themes: Art, fitness, games, animals, stem, water, culinary, and kindness. During art week, the children painted with an artist from TC Studios and made birdhouses and wind chimes. Fitness week included yoga (OC Beach Yoga) and CrossFit, during which we had certified instructors lead the children. Game week included a week of “unplugging” from electronics and instead enjoying hands-on activities and games. This included an obstacle course, scavenger hunt, charades, bingo, and a variety of traditional board games like Trouble, Sorry, Candyland, and Chutes and Ladders. Animal week introduced participants to coastal wildlife with the help of instructors from Coastal Bays, Coastal Kids, and Assateague state park. Children learned about sharks, sea turtles, horseshoe crabs, clams, oysters, and other various sea creatures. They also learned about our local coast and the value of caring for our beaches and water areas. STEM week included fun experiments such as building a catapult and creating rocket cars. M4 reactor also joined us for STEM week and provided a Mystery Bag challenge and project creating old fashioned catapults known as “Trebuchets.” Water week focused on mindfulness and fitness with water-based activities such as water balloon toss and water balloon baseball. Culinary week offered lessons on healthy eating and how to cook at any age. Children enjoyed making healthy wraps, graham cracker sea treats, dirt pudding

cups and “healthy” pizza. Lastly, for kindness week the Minority Youth Outreach Project joined the groups to talk about friendship and made friendship bracelets with the children. During that week, participants also made time capsules and painted kindness rocks.

Town of Berlin Events

Worcester Youth & Family participated in 3 town events during this quarter where we provided activities and community collaboration to the children who attended. The events included: Bathtub Races on July 9th, National Night Out on August 3rd, and Small Town Throw Down on September 11th. For the Bathtub races, we provided a kid’s craft table where children in the community decorated masks. We offered hand sanitizer and upheld social distancing during this event; and for those who did not wish to directly participate, we provided take-home craft activities. For National Night Out, we partnered with the Berlin Police Department and served snow cones to children and their families. This event allowed different organizations to join with local police and interact in a positive way with the community. Lastly, for the Small Town Throw Down we provided craft bags with take-home crafts for children and their families. These bags included projects (that were suited for almost any age) to make magnets, collages, and mobiles.