



Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc. Minutes – December 13, 2021

CVPC Meeting via Zoom

Board members in attendance: John Canoles, Bill Curtis, Kelly Emerson, Sya Kedzior, Kristin McFaul, Pat Novak, Joe Rector, Kim Shapiro, Mia Walsh and Abe Yoffe. Park Staff: Kirk Dreier

Absent: Rick Childs

1. WELCOME FROM PRESIDENT – ABE YOFFE

- a. Abe called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was conducted online using the Zoom meeting platform. A quorum was established.
- b. Abe thanked everyone for their volunteer efforts in 2021. We have tallied an *understated* amount of 1,200 hours the Council has put towards their volunteer work for their Park within the last 12 months.

2. GOVERNANCE

- a. Minutes – Mia Walsh Approval of October 2021 and November 2021 Minutes. The minutes were distributed with the agenda by the President prior to the meeting. A motion was made, seconded and voted upon and both the October and November 2021 minutes were accepted. These will be posted to the website.
- b. Finance – Kristin reviewed the financial documents which were distributed prior to the meeting. We did not spend a lot of time reviewing the Profit and Loss statement year to date to focus on the budget.
- c. Mia prepared a summary of the donation campaigns, including the campaign for GivingTuesday and the holiday season. As of 12/13/21, we have raised \$4,683.39 for the Zero-Turn Mower. This includes \$1,255 through a Facebook fundraiser which will be received in 2022, \$1,806.78 through the website and \$1,621.61 from the Kormanik family through gifts donated in lieu of flowers upon Coach Kormanik's death. We will continue to push for more donations the last two weeks of 2021.
- d. Budget for 2022: Kristin shared her screen for the final draft of the 2022 budget for discussions. We considered the organization budgeting for a loss (in our draft) vs. break even and decided to get as close to net zero as possible. Our final approved 2022 Budget ended with a \$420 surplus. A motion was made, seconded and voted upon to accept the final 2022 budget and was approved unanimously.

- INCOME

- We increased Polliwog income based on additional programs and the success of this year's sell-out sessions.
- Council Equipment Purchase, we have \$4,500 in this for additional Council monies needed to purchase the Zero-Turn mower if we don't raise enough money during the year-end push.

- EXPENSES

- Insurance was decreased by \$700 after investigation that our current insurance has a fiduciary component and that a second insurance would not be necessary.
- We are no longer printing the calendar. The staff is only having it printed through the County. The Calendar printing expense line was reduced to zero, and the Newsletter printing line was increased to reflect the expense for the increased frequency of issues, from twice a year to four times a year. We received donated funds in 2021 specifically for the Children's Garden in honor of Ranger Anne, so we decreased the Council's expense line item on that.
- Fall Festival / Migration Celebration was adjusted to a zero loss/surplus.

2. MANAGEMENT



Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc.
Minutes – December 13, 2021

CVPC Meeting via Zoom

- a. Baltimore County Property Management Report – No report submitted
- b. Park Staff Report – Kirk Dreier
 - Kirk met with the new Chief of Operations, Ben Porter, to review the mowing which needs to take place at Cromwell Valley Park.
 - 2 out of 5 of our port-a-potties were removed in error. Kirk is working with the company to rectify that problem. Talmar experienced the same removal, which prompted all program participants and visitors to use the restroom in their trailer.
 - Lutherville Garden Club's recent planting was "found" by the deer, who have been eating the young twigs. Rangers Kirk and Laura addressed the issue with some fencing.
 - DNR had a deer survey on November 18th and found 60+ deer in the park. Their goal is to cull 36-40 deer over the winter.
 - Nan McKay left the employ of Talmar and CVP staff is opening the gates at dawn, Talmar Staff at dusk and Michelle Mancuso is continuing to do the dates on the weekend.
 - Gate issues at Willow Grove are continuing, but the gate companies have come out to survey the lane. Kirk is looking forward to finally having a nice, sturdy gate.
 - Kirk would like to thank the Trails Committee for splitting the wood and distributing it the wood storage facilities. It took them three days for the work.
 - Mimi is making signs around the campfires that the wood and fire pits are for staff and programs only.
- c. Leaseholder's Report – Talmar, Kate Joyce
 - Nan McKay is no longer living on grounds and Talmar is actively seeking a new person for the opening and shutting of the gates.
 - Kate has been in contact with Ben Porter about Talmar perhaps leasing the silo barn to have a more expansive indoor space as they currently have no space to gather.
 - Talmar has Christmas 9 trees remaining on the lot. The staff is limited with the loss of staff and Talmar may open these up for pickup and payment via @venmo. Whatever Kate decides will be posted on social media.
- d. Friends of Sherwood – Mia Walsh – No Report
- d. Buildings and Grounds – Rick Childs – Not in Attendance
- e. Programs – Kelly Emerson
 - Towson Arts Council's Spring event is still under planning for a June 11th or 12th event. They currently don't have someone on staff to run the event at this time. Kelly has a call with them tomorrow.
 - No other PPI's have been received for the winter months.
- f. Finance – Rick Childs - Not in Attendance
- g. Membership – Kim Shapiro We are at 451 memberships as of 12/11/21, which could be the highest.
- h. Communications – Mia Walsh
 - The year-end cards have been received and are in process of being mailed. Mia will include the donation envelopes with the mailing in hopes of receiving additional funds for our Mower campaign.
- i. Volunteers – Kim Shapiro for Michelle and Pat



**Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc.
Minutes – December 13, 2021**

CVPC Meeting via Zoom

- Please review report submitted with agenda.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Cemetery Next Steps – Sya Kedzior would like us to do our due diligence and build on existing archival research to uncover as much as we can about the cemetery site. Sya will be meeting with Jim Kelly to listen to oral research and receive other documentation. She is speaking with someone from BTU (at Towson University) who seems to be interested in getting involved with the program, both with financial and time resources. A finalized project could have interpretive signage and more detailed information on our website. Repairing the cemetery wall is also of interest under the Trails Committee, but Sya will not be involved with that project.
- Abe attended a Recs and Parks meeting last week. The Director of Capital Projects of Baltimore County, Drew Emmer, presented and he showed some project drawings and information of various projects in design in Baltimore County. A new volunteer coordinator and fingerprinting system will be added in 2022.
- Abe discussed worked on our diversity, equity, and inclusion on our Board of Directors. Pat, Sya and Kelly would like to work with Abe on that committee.
- Kelly Emerson Pratt's fence is deteriorating, and she has stated that the County should be maintaining this fence between her property and the park. Kirk will come review the fence, as well as the damage done by a locked-in park goer. Discussion ensued about the park locking, signage and those issues which persist.
- Mia mentioned that we have four Board positions' terms expiring in March 2022. Nominations need to be made if Board members do not wish to return and slates published to the membership.

6. OLD BUSINESS -

- Chimney Swifts - John Canoles: No updates.
- Trail for All Surface – John Canoles: The surface was rolled in the June timeframe by the County who was here with some gravel projects. We will proceed with reaching out to Lake Roland in the spring. We are still waiting to hear from the Halten Garden Club about funds for resurfacing.
- Recognition of Susan Dorsey – John Canoles: The tree has been planted. Abe will look into a plaque for the tree.
- No updated on the Memo of Understanding.
- Migration Celebration / Fall Harvest Festival: Discussion ensued about the September vs. October dates of the Migration Celebration (September) vs. Fall Harvest Festival (October). Kirk seems to have enjoyed the logistics of a migration celebration and a few elements of a traditional Harvest Festival – designed as a combination of the two of them. We could include the birding, the apple coring, apple cider etc. Migration celebrations are very unique and Bill Curtis thinks that is an fun educational offering for our community.

Abe asked for a motion to adjourn, which was provided and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10th 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mia Walsh, Secretary, 12/13/21



**Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc.
Minutes – December 13, 2021**

CVPC Meeting via Zoom

2022 CVPC Meeting Dates

Approved at October 18, 2021 Meeting

MEETING LOCATION: REMOTE via ZOOM or SHERWOOD HOUSE

DATE 2021	MEETING	Open to Public?	Time
Monday, January 10	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 15 *	Executive Board Meeting (closed to Board only)	No	7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 14	Council Meeting (open to Public – Annual Meeting)	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, April 11	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 9	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, June 13	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 12	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	
Monday, August 8	Executive Board Meeting (closed to Board only)	No	7:00 p.m.
Monday, September 12	Council Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 17 th *	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 14	Executive Board Meeting (closed to Board only)	No	7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 12	Executive Board Meeting	Yes	7:00 p.m.

- * notes date changes due to holidays or other conflicts



**Cromwell Valley Park Council, Inc.
Minutes – December 13, 2021**

CVPC Meeting via Zoom



Cromwell Valley Park Council

Executive Board Listing

Effective April 12, 2021

OFFICERS	Name	Email Address	Term
President	Abe Yoffe	President@cromwellvalleypark.org	April 2021 – March 2023
Vice President	Kim Shapiro	vicepresident@cromwellvalleypark.org	April 2021 – March 2022
Treasurer	Kristin McFaul	treasurer@cromwellvalleypark.org	April 2021 – March 2023
Secretary	Mia Walsh	mia@cromwellvalleypark.org	April 2021 – March 2022
DIRECTORS – Members at Large			
Director	Sya Buryk Kedzior	syakedzior@gmail.com	April 2020 – March 2022
Director	Bill Curtis	curtiswbc@gmail.com	April 2020 – March 2022
Director	John Canoles	espijc@aol.com	April 2021 – March 2023
Director	Joe Rector	Joe.rector@cromwellvalleypark.org	April 2021 – March 2023
STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS			
Finance	Rick Childs	rikchilds@aol.com	Current membership year – voted annually *
Building and Grounds	Rick Childs	rikchilds@aol.com	^
Programs	Kelly Emerson	emersonkel@yahoo.com	^
Communications	Mia Walsh	mia@cromwellvalleypark.org	^
Volunteers	Pat Novak	pnovak8525@aol.com	^
LEASEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVE			
Talmar	Kate Joyce	katejoyce@talmar.org	

ARTICLE VII Executive Board

Section 1 - Members

The Executive Board will consist of the Officers, Directors, Leaseholder representatives, and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees.

***Section 4 - Chairpersons**

All standing committee chairpersons shall be elected by the current Executive Board to serve for the current membership year. The elections shall take place at the Executive Board Meeting subsequent to the Annual Meeting. If a standing committee chair position is vacant due to resignation or termination, the President shall appoint a chairperson to fill the remainder of the vacant term.

President, Treasurer – elected in odd-numbered years / two directors in odd-numbered years

Officers, Directors, Leaseholder Representatives and Chairpersons of the Standing Committees

Cromwell Valley Park Council: All members who have paid dues for the current year.