



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

**Thursday, February 21, 2019  
6:00PM**

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

**AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Project Coordinator's Report, including demo bid information and YMCA feasibility study information
3. Subcommittee Reports and Information
4. Spring Event Idea Discussion (Homework Assignment)

**\*\*Next Meeting is March 21, 2019**

Minutes of the Berlin Falls Park Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: January 17, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Chair Amy Field. Committee members present were Vice Chair Jack Orris, Zack Tyndall, Kate Patton, Bruce Hyder, Joan Maloof, and Roger Fitzgerald. Town Staff were Town Administrator Laura Allen, Project Coordinator David Deutsch, and Planning Director Dave Engelhart. Also in attendance was Mike Wiley, Chairman of the Berlin Parks Commission.

After a correction of the 11/15/2018 meeting minutes, Jack Orris made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Kate Patton, and unanimously accepted by the Committee.

Project Coordinator David Deutsch gave an update of activity including his report to the Mayor and Council meeting on 1/14/2019 on the request for funding for a feasibility study on a YMCA for the Berlin Falls Park site, which was tabled until more details were available. Mr. Deutsch and Ms. Allen held a conference call with Mr. Gill of the YMCA, and feasibility study would help identify programs, travel distance of users, the ability to pay, etc. of Berlin and surrounding area and the ability to support a "Y". Triangle2 of Nashville, TN is the YMCA's consultant of choice.

Amy Field stated the initial \$20,000 cost for a feasibility study doesn't include a study of the fundraising element (this would be in a subsequent study for another \$ 20,000).

Kate Patton questioned if the fundraising study was just a study of available wealth. Amy Field stated the need for details on both a feasibility and fundraising study.

Roger asked what the original study/concept plan from EDSA had cost. Ms. Allen replied approximately \$27,000.

Kate Patton asked if we had a community based facility, how would that be accessed?

Concilmember Tyndall stated that he sees the answer in several pieces which could include a Y at Berlin Falls Park, and a facility in the Henry Park area, and we need to determine which programs and components fit the community needs best at each location.

Jack Orris questioned whether this discussion could be folded into the upcoming community meetings in March 2019 on Community Resilience.

Joan Maloof asked if paper surveys could go out in electric utility bills, discussion ensued on survey methods. She also asked if the previous EDSA study would help reduce the cost of the new feasibility study.

Jack Orris asked if the Committee should meet with the Berlin Community Improvement Association (BCIA) in the near future to assess needs, programs, facilities, etc.

Kate Patton stated that the Committee could ask the Mayor and Council to approve the feasibility study and come back later for approval of the needed fundraising study. There was general agreement on this point.

Councilmember Tyndall suggested that the Committee could reach out to the Salisbury University Business Outreach program for available data as another source to back up information from any studies conducted.

Laura Allen stated that the YMCA organization prefers the Town work with Triangle2 for the studies.

David Deutsch gave an update on the RFP for demolition of the small outbuildings around the Park, with the bids to be opened 2/8/2019. Discussion of the buildings to remain ensued.

Discussion of possible fire sculptures and bonfires for special events took place with Jack Orris suggesting homework for the February 21, 2019 meeting be to develop suitable dates and possible events for bonfires and fire pits.

Subcommittee reports included discussion of the Town naming policy and surveys for public input, including using "Survey Monkey", and the suggestion box which is still up on the Town website.

The physical subcommittee (Roger Fitzgerald And Councilmember Tyndall) discussed Mr. Fitzgerald drawing a CAD map of the park for the next meeting, as well as plans for the pollinator garden, a skate park and ice rink, bird blinds, rebuilding the bridge over the stream in the woods, benches in various locations, and the need for a public restroom. A possible goal for June 2020 is a bandstand or theatre and piers for water access.

Amy Field questioned how these were to be paid for.

Ms. Allen stated that \$ 259,158.42 remained unallocated in the Town's bonding for the park.

Kate Patton stressed the need to leverage funds with available grant monies, such as for design of benches and bird blinds.

Mike Wiley stated that the biggest question put to him by the public was regarding a skate park.

Bruce asked about the spring clean up and volunteers during Take pride in Berlin Week, April 20-27. Discussion ensued.

Jack Orris made the motion to adjourn and Councilmember Tyndall seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

