

2016 PAB Annual Report Town of Centreville Park Advisory Board

Introduction

This Annual Report of the Town of Centreville Park Advisory Board (PAB) reviews its endeavors for the calendar year 2016. It lists the year's accomplishments, pending items, and future goals.

Millstream Park

Millstream Park continues to steadfastly serve our community. Community members and visitors take advantage of the many environmental sights and sounds, exercise and educational opportunities in Millstream Park. The playground perimeter underground drainage project was completed and mulched, resulting in drier playing areas and improved ground water quality. PAB members reviewed and revised park rules and regulations. Improvements at the park included new lights for the park entrance, six additional parking spaces, a new information board and park rules sign, and quarter-mile markers along the mile long park trail. Arbor Day was celebrated by planting a river birch, donated by Unity Nursery, along the Millstream path. Centreville Elementary School students participated in the discussion about Arbor Day and of the importance of trees. The students loved the Town of Centreville's receipt of a Tree City USA certificate and flag from the Department of Natural Resources, and the tree seedlings they received. Centreville Public Works did an excellent job of installing the new soft kayak launch, including five access steps built by Mr. Mike Whitehill. Queen Anne County Interact students picked up trash and debris along Millstream Trail in March as a community service clean-up project. We encourage our Centreville community to enjoy and stay involved with our precious Millstream Park.

Wharf Parks

Continue to walk the Wharf boardwalk to enjoy fishing, boating, viewing wildlife, and to use the children's playground, and get caught up in the excitement of the construction of our future Wharf Park. To date, concrete and rubble have been removed, and back fill is being placed to heighten the low areas. During the coming year rip rap will be added, back fill completed, top soil will be replaced, and the area will be seeded. The PAB met at the Wharf Park for their September meeting. Mr. Tim McCluskey, Council Vice President, provided the history of the Wharf Project, and Mr. Kip Matthews, Director of Public Works, described the current phase of the project and improvements coming to Wharf Park areas. The Community Parks and Playground Grant was applied for in 2016. Remember the Wharf Fishing Derby and Movie Night (The Force Awakens), when many large fish were caught and Darth Vader arrived by boat! Star Wars characters captured the Wharf for a unique Wharf experience. Look for similar fun events coming to the Wharf Parks every year.

Other Pocket Parks

Pop Taylor Park continues to provide a serene area for reflection of the legacy of Dr. William Leon "Pop" Taylor and to remember the revered educator, John F. Andrews Sr. Rest in the park, admire the garden, and be inspired by their achievements.

Tree Board

At February's Annual Tree Board Meeting, PAB Chair, Mike Whitehill advised PAB members that Centreville's Tree Canopy Map is updated every five years. Therefore, the Tree Board will be updating the map in 2017.

Landscape Agreement

Treadstone Hardscapes, LLC was awarded the 2016 Parks Landscape Maintenance Agreement. They have served us well for the last three years.

Christmas Celebration

Special appreciation is extended to all Centreville residents, volunteer groups, businesses, Town Staff, and Public Works Department personnel who decorated Centreville for Christmas. Weather conditions coerced Centreville into combining its Christmas parade with its tree lighting ceremony. Oh, was Centreville merry and bright! The Christmas spirit was further brightened by the wonderful, creatively decorated trees on Lawyer's Row and inside Town Hall. Thank you to the participants of the tree decorating contest who bring fun and joy to the Holiday Season and to Mr. Rich Ryan for organizing the tree decorating contest.

Calendar of Events

The calendar of events is compiled monthly and continues to coordinate and keep us up-to-date on Town, County, and other group events.

Miscellaneous Business

The PAB wants to thank departing members and welcome its new members. Mr. George (Smokey) Sigler, Council President Ex officio, thank you for your invaluable advice, service, suggestions, and encouragement. Thank you to Mrs. Lisa Parlin and Ms. Elizabeth Baer for their knowledge and generous time spent assisting the PAB. Mrs. Parlin's knowledge of trees, shrubs, and landscaping helped Centreville in many ways and locations. She was helpful in compiling the Town's list of native trees, which is now on the Town's website, and for designing and landscaping Pop Taylor Park. Welcome to Mr. Timothy McCluskey, Council Vice President Ex officio, Mr. William Joiner, Mrs. Priscilla Mileski, and Mr. Robert Hardy who will bring their many talents, knowledge, and energy to serving the PAB.

Recommendations and Goals to Improve Park Advisory Board Service

1. Create an outreach program to the Centreville community to obtain ideas regarding long-term park plans and park improvements. Stress the need for community participation, including input on park and playground design, volunteering to help maintain the parks, and input on and help with raising funds for new projects desired by the community.
2. Coordinate with Town Council and the Planning Commission to receive information regarding new plans and whether said plans comply with the Tree Canopy Ordinance.
3. Prioritize PAB budget items, fundraising projects, and spending. Factor in the cost of new projects, maintenance required, and manpower hours needed. Establish a PAB Planner to incorporate and set a timeline for new and ongoing projects.

4. Communicate with Centreville Public Works Department about PAB items it would like to have completed each year.
5. Coordinate with the Main Street Manager concerning PAB projects for assistance to best utilize resources to find people to volunteer, and to help find funding for our projects.
6. Work with and support efforts of Heritage Strategies, Inc. to facilitate the implementation of the Centreville Heritage Master Plan.

Centreville Park Advisory Board Members

Mike Whitehill, Chair

William Joiner, Vice Chair

Sandy Simpson, Secretary

Rich Ryan, Member

Priscilla Mileski, Member

Robert Hardy, Member

Tim McCluskey, Council Vice President Ex officio

Steve Walls, Town Manager