

Village Report 7/23/2020

Note: there was a work session on 6/9, but it consisted only of advisory committee reports. No official business was conducted.

Resident Speakout

A gym user expressed concern about lax mask usage. Staff states that mask use is monitored and that masks can be taken off only for specified activities. Assurances were given that those exceptions are safe and follow established guidelines. Another resident requested information on increases in the 2020 Budget's Technology Supplies and Insurance and Taxes lines. Staff will investigate and respond.

Steve Snelgrove, president of the Howard County General Hospital, spoke in opposition to the CA lawsuit pending against DAACA regarding ongoing violations of CA property rights in Symphony Woods, since this would impact the hospital's Symphony of Lights event. In the following discussion, it was revealed that, at the time the traditional site in the Crescent area was no longer to be available due to construction, the hospital chose to spend nearly half a million dollars on new LED lights despite not having an acceptable venue for future drive-throughs. This meant that the SOL event is no longer benefiting the hospital but rather paying off the cost of the lights. At the \$75K/year in receipts the hospital receives from the SOL operator, it will be another six years before any SOL money actually benefits the hospital.

Budget Schedule for the FY22 Budget

The Board approved a revised FY22 budget schedule. Previously, the Board established budget parameters in July, but this will be moved back to September in order to get a better picture of revenues prior to beginning FY22 planning.

Reopening

There are over 220 Clippers back in the water at the Swim Center, and the number is growing. Swim classes filled up immediately.

Meanwhile, Kids Space is working on developing programs to "give parents a break this fall." Further information will be forthcoming.

New Staff

A new Chief Marketing Officer director has been hired to begin at the end of August, and we are also in the process of hiring a Communications Chief.

Special Hours for Covid19 Vulnerable Individuals

CA gyms reserve several afternoon hours in the gyms for older adults, since they are more vulnerable to the pandemic. A question was raised as to whether other individuals with medical conditions that also increase risk should be included. Since this involves a number of executional considerations, Staff was asked to come back with a feasibility recommendation.