

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

August 19, 2025
Legislative Session Day

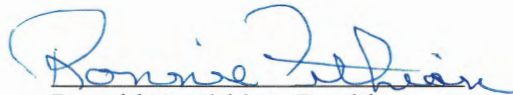
Legislative Session Day
August 19, 2025

CODE HOME RULE
BILL NO. 7-2025

INTRODUCED BY: Ronald H. Fithian, President of the Board of County Commissioners for Kent County, Maryland.

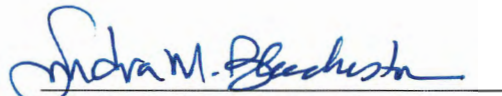
AN ACT to repeal and reenact with amendments Chapter 42 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the Code of Public Laws of Kent County, Maryland.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND


Ronald H. Fithian, President

INTRODUCED, read the first time, August 19, 2025, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled on September 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Commissioners Hearing Room, R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., Kent County Government Center, 400 High Street, Chestertown, Maryland.

By order of:


Sondra M. Blackiston, Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

HAVING been posted and notice of the time and place of the hearing and copies made available to the public and the press, a public hearing was held on September 9, 2025. Reported favorably ~~[with]~~ [without] amendments; read the second time and ordered to be considered on September 16 2025, a legislative session day.

A BILL ENTITLED CHR 7-2025 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

SECTION 1. NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Chapter 42 is hereby repealed and reenacted as follows:

Chapter 42
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

§ 42-1. Director.

The County Commissioners of Kent County may appoint a Director of Parks and Recreation who shall serve at the pleasure of the County Commissioners and receive such compensation as may be from time to time determined by the County Commissioners.

§ 42-2. Kent County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

A Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall be established. The members of this Board will be appointed by the County Commissioners of Kent County, in accordance with the provisions outlined in this chapter.

§ 42-3. Composition and Compensation.

- A. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall consist of a minimum of seven and a maximum of nine members, excluding the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Deputy Director of Public Works, who will serve as nonvoting ex officio members. The membership will comprise individuals with a strong interest in recreation and parks.
- B. Advisory Board members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, subject to approval by the County Commissioner.

§ 42-4. Terms and Removal.

- A. At least one member shall be a County Commissioner, serving for the duration of their term in office. Additionally, at least one member must be a Board of Education member, also serving for their term, and one member shall be a secondary school student from Kent County, serving as long as they are enrolled. All other members will serve a term of four years or until their successors are appointed.
- B. A member may be recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to the County Commissioners for removal. A member missing three consecutive meetings may be recommended for removal.

§ 42-5. Officers and Quorum.

- A. The officers of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall include a Chair and a Vice Chair, both elected from among the Board's members. Each officer shall serve a term of two years with

an opportunity to be reappointed or until a successor is elected. The specific responsibilities of the officers are detailed in the bylaws of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

- B. A quorum for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall consist of a majority of its members.

§ 42-6. Meetings.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of February and the third Mondays of May, August, and November.

§ 42-7. Duties and Responsibilities.

- A. Provide recommendations on a variety of topics, including parkland acquisition, services, and program offerings.
- B. Offer guidance on parks and recreation issues, encompassing planning, policy development, and program implementation.
- C. Evaluate budgets and proposals to ensure they align with the objectives of the Parks and Recreation department.
- D. Act as a liaison between the community and the Parks and Recreation department.
- E. Assist in the development and promotion of new parks, programs, and activities to enhance community engagement.
- F. Recommend policies, rules, and regulations for facilities, including participation fees for programs.
- G. Monitor the effectiveness of parks and recreation programs to ensure they meet community needs.
- H. Propose rules and regulations to guide the operations of parks and recreation.
- I. Foster collaboration among county departments and municipal and state governments.
- J. Establish bylaws for governance and business conduct and recommend rules and regulations for the use and access of recreational programs and facilities.
- K. Perform additional duties as assigned by the County Commissioners as necessary.

§ 42-8. Subcommittees.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board may, at its discretion, establish subcommittees to advance its mission.

§ 42-9. Nature of Commission.

BILL NO. 7-2025

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CAPITALS & BOLD INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

~~Strike-through~~ indicates matter deleted from existing law.

The powers and responsibilities of the Director and the Board are strictly advisory in nature. Neither the Director, nor any of its members shall assume any obligations on behalf of the County.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the County Commissioners of Kent County that this

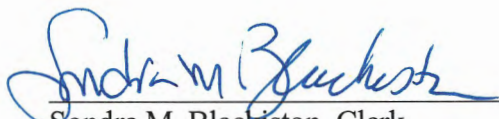
Act shall take effect on the 31st day of October, 2025.

Read Third Time September 16, 2025

PASSED this 16th day of September, 2025.

Failed of Passage _____

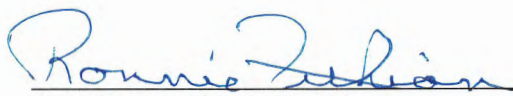
By order of:

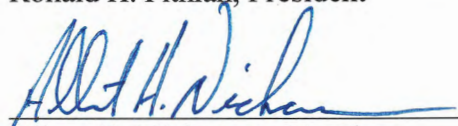

Sondra M. Blackiston, Clerk

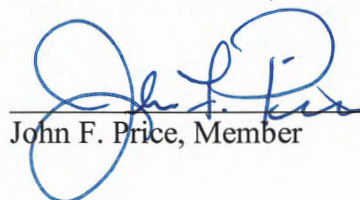
THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

(SEAL)




Ronald H. Fithian, President


Albert H. Nickerson, Member


John F. Price, Member

ORDERED a fair summary thereof or the entire bill shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County, not less than three times at weekly intervals within a four-week period.