



Commission Meeting Open Session Minutes May 20, 2026

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met in a hybrid format in-person at the Wheaton Headquarters Building in Wheaton, MD, and via videoconference. The meeting was broadcast by the Montgomery County Planning Department.

Present

Prince George's County Commissioners

Billy Okoye

Manuel Geraldo

Brittany Jenkins

Lori Matthews (joined at 10:15 a.m.)

Montgomery County Commissioners

Artie Harris, Chair

Shawn Bartley

James Hedrick

Josh Linden

Mitra Pedoeem

Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Item 1. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of May 20, 2026, Commission Meeting Agenda
- b) Resolution 26-06 Designation of the Rose-Budd House to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation (Bolliger)

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the meeting agenda

Seconded by Commissioner Okoye

9 approved the items

Item 2. Approval of Commission Minutes

- a) Open Session – April 15, 2026
- b) Open Session – April 30, 2026

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Hedrick to approve the Commission Minutes of April 15 and 30, 2026

Seconded by Commissioner Pedoeem

9 approved the items

Item 3. General Announcements

- a) National Fitness Month/Fitness Days
- b) Memorial Day Holiday
- c) Upcoming Juneteenth Holiday

Item 4. Committee and Board Reports

- a) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2026 (for Information Only)

Item 5. Action and Presentation Items

- a) CAS Salary Savings Transfers Request (Charles)

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the transfer request

Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick

9 approved the item

As detailed in the packet, Corporate Budget Director Terri Charles briefed the Commissioners and discussed a request to transfer \$85,000 as a budget adjustment to cover benefit costs incurred above the budgeted amount by the Legal Department and the Merit Board because of employee benefit selection changes.

If approved, the appropriate Bi-County amounts will be transferred from available Non-Departmental accounts, with the Legal Department receiving \$50,000 and the Merit Board receiving \$35,000.

Director Charles added that she will likely return next month with additional transfer requests based on Central Administrative Services savings.

Item 6. Officers' Reports

Executive Director's Report

No report scheduled

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

No report scheduled

General Counsel

- a) Annual Legislative Update
- b) Litigation and Administrative Hearings Report (for information only)

Jordan BaucumColbert, Senior Government Affairs Analyst for the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), briefed the Commissioners regarding the OGC's 2026 Annual Legislative Report for the 449th legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly, which concluded on April 13. During the 90-day session, more than 2,000 bills were introduced

by both the House of Delegates and the State Senate, with 878 passed. The OGC tracked over 200 pieces of legislation related to housing, planning, environmental issues, land use, law enforcement, and bi-county agencies.

Montgomery County Parks Department and Prince George's County Planning and Parks and Recreation Departments received a total of \$15 million in state grants for cultural arts projects, parks projects, and improvements to police headquarters, community centers, and recreation centers. Montgomery County Parks received approximately \$9 million of the Maryland Program Open Space statewide disbursement of \$59 million, with Prince George's receiving approximately \$7 million.

Also, during the 2026 session, House Speaker Joseline Peña-Melnyk established the Rural Caucus, a bipartisan caucus that advocates for rural areas of the state, including Allegheny, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, and portions of Montgomery Counties, among others.

In March, the M-NCPPC hosted Advocacy Day in Annapolis – an event focused on staff connecting with lawmakers face-to-face and sharing personal stories regarding the agency's work and accomplishments. Staff also hosted the Timeless Prince George's Art exhibit reception, a Delegation Legislation Briefing, and an information table at the Minority Business Enterprise Night event.

Counsel then highlighted relevant bills that were passed during the 2026 session:

- The Alcoholic Beverage/Wine Festival Licensing bill
- HB 1252 – requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to study and make recommendations to increase housing availability and affordability in Montgomery County
- The Prince George's County Suitland Development Authority bill
- HB 1247 – regarding tax increment financing
- SB 325 – Maryland Housing Certainty Act
- The Land-use Transit Oriented Development Alterations bill

SB 1005 – M-NCPPC/General Counsel/Planning Board Alteration bill did not pass.

Other significant bills that passed are included in the final Legislative Report, which is currently going through technical and formatting finalization but will be made available to the Commissioners when ready.

Recommendations include continued engagement with elected officials at conferences and panels to communicate any existing or new M-NCPPC priorities.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. BaucumColbert for her presentation.

Pursuant to the Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b)(9), a closed session is proposed to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to MCGEO negotiations.

Pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, 3-305(b)(1), a closed session is proposed to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

Topic to be discussed: Employment matter

Pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code, General Provisions Article, 3-305(b)(7), to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

Topic to be discussed: Potential or pending litigation and Commission operations

Item 7. Closed Session

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to enter closed session

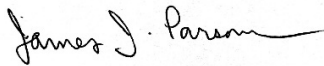
Seconded by Commissioner Okoye

9 approved the items

On motion of Commissioner Geraldo, seconded by Commissioner Okoye, with Commissioners Bartley, Geraldo, Harris, Hedrick, Jenkins, Linden, Matthews, Okoye, and Pedoeem voting in favor of the motion, the Commission convened in Closed Session at 10:32 a.m. under the authority of Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(9), to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations; (1), to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and (7), to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Bartley, Geraldo, Harris, Hedrick, Jenkins, Linden, Matthews, Okoye, and Pedoeem.

Also present for the meeting were William Spencer, Acting Executive Director; Terri Charles, Corporate Budget Director; Gavin Cohen, Secretary-Treasurer; James Hunt, Acting Director, Prince George's Planning; Darius Stanton, Director, Prince George's Parks and Recreation; Miti Figueredo, Director, Montgomery Parks; Jason Sartori, Director, Montgomery Planning; Todd Allen, Corporate Human Resources Director; Wes Aniton, Deputy General Counsel; Gary Burnett, Deputy Director, Montgomery Parks; Mazen Chilet, Chief Information Officer; Darren Flusche, Deputy Director, Montgomery Parks; Tracey Harvin, Corporate Policy and Management Operations Director; Jason Lawrence, Deputy Secretary-Treasurer; Gwen McCall-Winston, Deputy Director, Prince George's Planning; Katina Shoulars, Acting Deputy Director, Prince George's County Parks and Recreation; and James Parsons, Sr. Technical Writer, DHRM.

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.



James J. Parsons, Senior Technical Writer



William Spencer, Acting Executive Director