

## 44A.

(a) *The County Commissioners of Kent County may establish a Board of Parks and Recreation, with powers and duties as hereinafter specified.*

(b) *The Board shall consist of seven members, appointed by the County Commissioners, of whom one shall be first recommended by the Board of Education of Kent County from its membership or otherwise. All members of the Board shall be appointed for four years from the first day of January of the year of their appointments, or until their successors are appointed. The members of the Board, other than the County Commissioner, when first appointed, shall be divided into three classes, two of the members being in each class. The initial terms of those in the first class shall be four years; of those in the second class, three years; and of those in the third class, two years. Vacancies, except those at the expiration of a term, shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments and for the unexpired term. In the appointment of Board members, the County Commissioners shall give due regard to giving representation to all segments of the County's population and to all geographic portions of the County's area. All members of the Board shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed for necessary and proper expenses incurred while performing their duties thereon.*

(c) *The Board shall annually select a chairman and a vice chairman from its membership; and it shall also select a secretary and a treasurer, who may or may not be members thereof. The Board may require the treasurer to give bond in such amount as it may determine, and it is further authorized to adopt all necessary rules and regulations for the conduct of its business and for the protection of properties under its control. The Board shall hold such regular and special meetings as it may deem necessary. The Board is authorized to determine all questions of general policy relating to parks and public recreation in Kent County and to supervise the expenditure of funds appropriated to these purposes. It may appoint advisory committees or panels to assist in the exercise of its powers and functions.*

(d) *The Board, with the approval of the County Commissioners, may accept real and personal property of all kinds suitable for public parks, open space programs, and recreational purposes, legal title to which shall always be in the Board of County Commissioners. The County Commissioners may appropriate in the annual budget of the County such sums as may be necessary to purchase land, construct improvements, and defray expenses for the maintenance of park and recreation areas under the control of the Board and for the support of the park and recreational programs. The acquisition of property, with the approval of the County Commissioners, may be by purchase, condemnation, grant, bequest, devise, or lease of the fee or any lessor interest, development right, assignment, covenant or other contractual right necessary for park and recreation programs. The County Commissioners have the power to sell or in any manner dispose of these parks and recreational properties.*

(e) *The Board, subject to budgetary policies and appropriations of the County Commissioners, may initiate, adopt, direct, or cause to be conducted or directed, a comprehensive program of public*