

A. There is [established] a Board of Parks [and Recreation], with powers and duties as specified in this chapter.

B. The Board [shall consist] CONSISTS of [seven (7)] 7 members appointed by the County Commissioners. All members of the Board shall be appointed for [four (4)] 4 years from the first day of January of the year of their appointments or until their successors are appointed. 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. 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.

C. The Board shall annually select a Chairman and Vice Chairman from its membership. 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 Charles 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 responsibilities.

D. The Board, with the approval of the County Commissioners, may accept real and personal property of all kinds suitable for public [parks,] PARKS AND open space programs [and recreational purposes], legal title to which shall always be in the Board of County Commissioners. The County Commissioners shall appropriate in the annual budget of the county a sum of money to defray the expenses of the Board, [to pay the salary of the Director,] to purchase land, construct improvements and defray expenses for the maintenance of park [and recreation] areas under the control of the [Board] 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] PARK properties subject to the advice and consent of the Charles County Board of Parks [and Recreation]. Funds appropriated by the Board of Parks [and Recreation] must be expended in accordance with the Board's budget as approved by the County Commissioners. Any request for a change in the expenditure of funds by the Board shall be submitted, in writing, for approval to the County Commissioners. [Any request is presumed granted if not denied within thirty (30) days.] No transfer of funds from one category of the approved budget to another shall be permitted without the written approval of the County Commissioners.

E. The Board, subject to its budgetary limitations, may initiate, adopt, direct or cause to be conducted or directed a