

County Executive Pittman Visits Crofton

On April 8th, County Executive Steuart Pittman, along with staff members from Recreation and Parks, Planning and Zoning, Land Use, Community Engagement and Constituent Services, as well as the Economic Development Corporation, spent two hours getting a taste of life here in the Triangle.

The purpose of the visit was to familiarize County officials with some of our amenities and brainstorm ways in which we might work together to improve them.

I, along with fellow CCA Board members Anna O'Kelly and Rob Kendall, led the group on a tour that began at Swann Park where we discussed work that has been done, things that are in the pipeline, and wants for the future of that space including improved accessibility, features for seniors, and updated playground equipment.

We then took a short hike along the trails that lead into the adjoining Crofton Natural Area (which is County owned) and were joined by a young, neighborhood cycling enthusiast, as well as Ryan Stouten from Family Bike Shop. Ryan was involved in the creation of the extensive biker/hiker trails at Bacon Ridge Park in Crownsville, a facility where bikers and hikers recreate in harmony. We discussed ideas for achieving the same here in Crofton.

Next stop was the Village Green where we provided a history of the development, described the days when the Sly Horse Tavern and Vince's Deli provided a hub for social gathering, along with activities like the craft fairs and summer concerts, and expressed our hopes for breathing some new life into that complex that would enable residents to grab a cup of coffee or sandwich or drink and not have to brave Rt. 3. in the process!

Then it was on to Hardy Field where we showed the group our aging playground and ball field and chatted about various needs and ideas there.

The tour ended with a visit to Town Hall where a socially distant gathering of Town Hall staff, CCA Board members, and a handful of other residents sat in a circle in the back yard and enjoyed a Q&A session with Mr. Pittman. Before leaving, Chief Fox led Mr. Pittman on a brief tour of Town Hall.

I'd like to thank James Kitchin (a lifelong Crofton resident), who serves as the county executive's Director of Community Engagement and Constituent Services, for setting up this event and helping us keep Crofton on the county's radar screen. Thank you, James!

Martin Simon
CCA President