

COUNTYWIDE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
May 5, 2014
MEETING NOTES

Present: Joy Barrow, Wesley Japp, Renee Katz, James Krzyminski, Paul Lofgren, Ron MacNab, David Magill, Vernard McBeth, Mark Pharaoh, Chris Richardson, Sean Thomas Smith, Felecia Wilson, Gabe Albornoz [Rec], Jeff Bourne [Rec], Mary Bradford [Parks], Morton Davis [Commission on Aging], Tony DeVaul [Park Police], Ursula Hermann [MCPS], Susan Hoffmann [Rec], Robin Riley [Rec]

Absent: Erik Johnson, Myron Johnson, Ingrid Pufahl, Michael Waters, Steve Beach [CUPF], Christine Brett [Parks], Susan Hartung [Commission on Disabilities]

Guests: County Executive Ike Leggett, Terry Blount-Williams [Rec], Morris Buster [Rec], Marco D'Ottavio [Rec], Trish Gill [Rec], Vicki Kane [Rec], John Nissel [Parks], Phil Smakula [Rec], Lori Tyer-Ellis [Rec], Christy Turnbull [Parks],

Chair Richardson called the meeting to order.

The Agenda and the March 11 and April 7, 2014 meeting notes were approved unanimously.

Employee Excellence Awards were presented by County Executive Ike Leggett to:

- Morris Buster
- Marco D'Ottavio
- Trish Gill

Rec Update – Gabe Albornoz

- County Executive Budget went before the full Council. Montgomery County Recreation received good news:
 - Annualization of the senior transportation program with the Jewish Council on Aging [JCA]
 - Restoring hours of operation at three senior centers to 2008 hours
 - Positive Youth Development programs will be expanded to Montgomery Village Middle School [Excel Beyond the Bell] and Watkins Mill High School [Sports Academy]
 - Reconciliation List includes an additional senior manager position. Montgomery County Recreation currently lacks the administrative infrastructure to support departmental data which would lead to more informed decision-making going forward
 - There are \$40 million in need on the reconciliation list, but in reality, about \$8 million can be funded
 - Confident that what we requested will be funded
- MCPS budget will impact our programs if they are in a school facility.
- We are offering an informal one day drop-in at four Community Recreation Centers, Longwood, Lawton, Good Hope and Germantown on June 16 to provide an opportunity

for parents to have coverage, if their children's camp was cancelled on June 16. The cost per child is \$25.

- The date for camp cancellation is May 15, earlier than we would like. Cancellations are done primarily due to low enrollment.
- A number of our Community Recreation Centers will host early voting

- Robin Riley
 - Montgomery County Recreation is providing busing to those who may wish to speak out on YAC issues on May 10

- Jeff Bourne – CIP
 - Working with the Department of General Services:
 - May 22 – public meeting to get resident input on Good Hope
 - June 14 – North Potomac ribbon cutting
 - Clarksburg after start of fiscal year
 - Wheaton – early conceptual design for complete Community Recreation Center, Library and Gilchrist Center
 - Ross Boddy will close in September

Parks Update – Mary Bradford

- The budget is at the PHED Committee of the County Council. We would be better organized with public outreach, including the Countywide Recreation Advisory Board and local boards. They are mostly absent from the process. This is an opportunity to be more active and involved. Montgomery County Public Libraries are very active, including having their own tee shirts. Council is not seeing supporters in the audience. This is something to think about in the future.
- The condition of over 300 fields = very saturated
- Important to receive notices from Alert Montgomery

- Christy Turnbull
 - Discussed closing picnic

Local Board Reports

- Eastern County, Mark Pharaoh – no report.
- Mid County, Paul Lofgren – no report. Arquilla Ridgell had a death in the family and may be returning to the Mid County board.
- Upper County, Vernard McBeth – Clarksburg – let's pick a space and get on with it. Recommendations from the Upper County Board were not taken into consideration. Jeff Bourne explained the site evaluation process. A discussion ensued.

- Ex Officio Reports
- Community Use of Public Facilities, Steve Beach – Absent.
- Commission on Aging, Morton Davis – he is meeting shortly with Phil Smakula on “Keeping Seniors Safe” program.
- MCPS, Ursula Hermann – working very hard on new state position on discipline – restorative, not punitive. No mandatory suspensions and cutting back from 10 to 3 days.

Trying to find an answer to the question: “What would you do if you couldn’t suspend?”
MCPS is revising its own Code of Conduct – reflective of what the state is working on.

- Commission on People with Disabilities, Susan Hartung – absent
- M-NCPPC Police, Chief Tony DeVaul
 - May 7 – Montgomery County Fallen Heroes Day at 11am
 - May 21 – awards ceremony at Woodlawn
 - Ratified agreement with the FOP. Promotional testings during the month of May. With nice weather, increased use of trails.
 - June 4 – Mary Bradford’s retirement party at the AG Historical Farm Park

Old/New Business – Chris Richardson

- Chris thanked those on the Board who testified on April 10 before the Montgomery County Council
- Discussion ensued as to how the Employee Excellence Awards information will be disseminated. Photos will be posted on the Montgomery County Recreation internal website, social media [FB and Twitter], articles in the Montgomery County Recreation newsletter, *The REcord*, and the internal newsletter. It was decided that the awards should be an annual event and that Parks should participate.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm