

Sports Advisory Committee  
Bauer Drive Community Recreation Center  
14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville  
Thursday, March 21, 2024  
6:00 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes

**Board Members:** Mary Kate Crawford, Doug Schuessler, Trish Heffelfinger, Rick James, Samantha Griffin, Chris Wajda, Tom Cove, Tony Korson, Princess Clemente, Max Levitt, Tina Won Sherman, Doug Remer, Amy Lopez,

**Absent Board Members:** Dustin Jeter, Ben Corb, David Schardt, Joe Hooks

**Ex-Officio:** Steve Solomon, Nancy Petzold-Earp, Darren Flusche

**Staff:** Amanda DeFilippo

**Guests:**

Montgomery County Recreation

Adriane Clutter - Division Chief, Programs

Montgomery County Parks

Carl Weber - Athletic Field Planner

- 6:08 p.m. Call to order by Tom Cove, Chair
- 6:10 p.m. Review and Approve Agenda - Tony Korson motioned, unanimous approval  
February Minutes - Chris Wajda motioned, unanimous approval
- 6:09 p.m. Tom Cove - general announcements
- 6:12 p.m. Tina Won Sherman - ice breaker - What does success look like to you?
- 6:16 p.m. Tina Won Sherman shared comments about the ribbon cutting at SSRAC; Trish Heffelfinger and Steve Solomon shared comments about the new display for the Montgomery County Sports Hall of Fame;
- 6:23 p.m. Adriane Clutter explained the budget timeline. Explanation of difference between capital improvement budget and operating budget.
- .08% of the county operating budget of the county
  - (roughly \$57 million)
  - Questions from the committee

- How has the free access to rec centers program (“Free in ‘23”) impacted usage in the communities of concern? (In other words, has removal of fees increased usage (or are there other barriers at play?)

Darren Flusche explained the Parks budget

- 4% of the operating budget (\$284 million)
- Office of budgetary Management

7:35 p.m. Tom Cove motion to modified agenda to continue with the current conversation on the budget - unanimous approval

- Questions and comments from the committee
  - Question about RecAssist
  - Question about why there is not a “friends of the rec”?
    - How might we have a voice without creating such a group?
    - What might organized advocacy look like?
  - Intention to start next meeting with action following this conversations
    - How do we advocate? (At council budget meetings?)
    - Create a “friends of the rec” foundation?
    - How do we use this committee to target what we want to advocate for?
    - What do we want and how might we leverage it
- Working groups should have recommendations clearly written

7:56pm Tony Korson posed the question how can we form a consortium among the non profit groups that are funded through the rec department? Some discussion ensued, but primarily tabled until the next meeting

8:03 pm Next meeting April 18, 2024  
Rick James motion to adjourn, unanimous approval