

Meeting Minutes  
Sports Advisory Committee  
White Oak Community Recreation Center  
Thursday, January 18, 2024

**Board Members:** Samantha Griffin, Mary Kate Crawford, Doug Schuessler, Princess Clemente, Rick James, Doug Remer, Tom Cove, Tina Won Sherman, Amy Lopez, Chris Wajda, Max Levitt, Ben Corb, Joe Hooks

**Absent Board Members:** Tony Korson, David Schardt, Dustin Jeter, Trish Heffelfinger

**Ex-Officio:** Steve Solomon, Rebecca Frece, Nancy Petzold-Earp, Kathy Green, Yuling Mei, Darren Flusche  
**Staff:** Jason Fasteau

**Guests:**

Montgomery County Recreation

Adriane Clutter - Division Chief, Programs

6:09 pm - Meeting called to order by Tom Cove

Motion to approve the agenda - Rick, unanimous approval

Motion to approve the minutes - Doug, unanimous approval

6:17pm - Facilities Working Group presented on the idea of developing a case study of developing youth sports programming in a selected and underserved location. Discussion ensued.

6:44pm - Motion to direct the group to proceed with the plan, as proposed - unanimous approval of the committee to proceed.

6:47pm - Participation Working Group presented expanding the Role of the Community Liaison

1. Engage with other county agencies and organizations to reduce silos, driving participation in all agencies but not limited to:
2. Collect data and evaluate- report on community needs to inform sports programs and initiative as well as report on outcomes twice a year to both Rec and SAC as well as create a feedback mechanism
3. Target communities of concern and identify barriers to participation as well as best practices to facilitate sports participation including but not limited to
4. Build capacity
  - a. Identify gaps in service
5. Create a mechanism for feedback for liaison feedback and activities to be made part of the annual budget process

Extensive discussion ensued.

7:17pm Programs Working Group presenting their recommendation for an accessible sports directory

1. Sports Programming Directory - publicly accessible sports directory
  - a. What - through the county website or through an app
  - b. Why - Increase awareness of county and private entities; allow residents to learn about available programming. Would provide Rec with valuable information in where gaps exists, and where to target county resources. Could help increase collaboration in the county
  - c. How - basic information about what's available and what the cost is. There is a need for resources to implement and advertise the directory. A process for regular updating is necessary. May or may not require vetting - could put a disclaimer that the county is not responsible for the non-Rec entities
    - i. Some ideas to make the directory even more comprehensive (including some examples from other municipalities)
    - ii. Could use the same technology that is similar to the food bank
    - iii. MCPS, CUPF data on who gets permits could be a place to start for the vendor list
    - iv. The app or directory would not be dynamic but could connect to the respect entities' websites for registration

Amy - example of volunteer network or approved vendor

[https://montgomerycountymd.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need\\_id=891533](https://montgomerycountymd.galaxydigital.com/need/detail/?need_id=891533)

Adriane - it's important to make sure vendors are approved

- Safe to work with kids
- Good standing in the State of Maryland

Tom - follow up on the balance between safety and encouraging as many vendors as possible. Directed the group to follow up with this balance

Amy - as a provider, I would sign up for this, and I would provide data in order to earn the right to continue being on the app

2. Parks User Policy Process Review
  - a. The concept of historical use needs to be looked at and evaluate its policy for issuing permits. What criteria are considered? Is equity considered?

Darren - we welcome a recommendation regarding historical/prior use. We are planning to review it - but we welcome your official recommendation

Darren - Carl is leading this endeavor. We would share our policy and process in February, in 6 months we could share more about our findings. Can send the 4 page policy. The general process will be: survey the existing users to identify major barriers/issues with permitting process

Does the committee endorse with the directory idea - yes fully endorsed

7:54pm - Recognition Group presented their idea for recognition of the County's unsung heroes in sports

<https://sacrecognition.org/>

Unsung hero recognition -

Adriane - the unsung hero part is going to get a lot of great traction. The committee could be part of the award and that could be very meaningful for the community.

Amy - Montgomery Serves has an award process based on volunteerism great example

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/awards/>

8:03pm - Tom - asked the committee to vote on the idea that the unsung heroes component of this process should be pursued.

8:05pm - Administrative Annoucments

Motion to adjourn Rick, unanimous approval