

COUNTYWIDE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
NOVEMBER 7, 2011  
MEETING NOTES

Present: James Krzyminski, Ron MacNab, David Magill, Mark Pharaoh, Jerilyn Ray-Shelley, Chris Richardson, George Schlapo, Sean Thomas Smith, George Tarrico, James Zepp.

Gabe Albornoz (Rec), Jeff Bourne (Rec), Mary Bradford (Parks), Christine Brett (Parks), Susan Hoffmann (Rec), Vivien Hsueh (Commission on Aging), Robin Riley (Rec), Tanya Schmieler (Parks)

Absent: Paul Lofgren, John Williams, Up County Board Rep, MCPS Rep, Kamran Rasul (Commission on Disabilities),

Guests: Kathleen Michels, Clara Pribluda, new Commission on Aging Rep.

Chair Report – George Tarrico

- John Williams, vice chair, has resigned due to health issues. Following discussion, Jim Krzyminski and Sean Thomas Smith will comprise the nominating committee to find a replacement.

Rec Update – Gabe Albornoz

- October 23 marked the renaming ceremony of the Montgomery Aquatic Center to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Sargent Shriver Aquatic Center. Extremely successful event. Thanks to Parks for provision of security.
- Earlier the same day, “Audacity of Hoops” was held at the Silver Spring Civic Building and Veterans Plaza, under the sponsorship of County Council President Valerie Ervin and Montgomery County Recreation.
- Kicked off Excel Beyond the Bell on October 20. Program is held Monday through Thursday after school and provides a safe, fun place for out-of-school time for middle school students, along with a hot evening meal. Program is a partnership among Montgomery County Recreation, Montgomery County Public Schools and the Montgomery County Collaboration Council.
- Many Halloween events were held. Exceptional effort at the Damascus Community Center’s Haunted Forest, thanks to Linda Panagoulis, director.
- Held first “Gabbin’ with Gabe” town hall meeting with our director on October 27 at the Praisner Community Center.

- Had CIP meeting with OMB today. Montgomery County Recreation's debt service is the third largest "agency" equivalent in the County. The current plan is unsustainable and significant changes to CIP projects should be expected. One or two projects per CIP cycle are more realistic.
- Due to cutbacks in times of operation, Montgomery County Recreation is struggling with meeting the demands of our facilities. Some groups are being squeezed out by groups with larger numbers. The time immediately after work to 9pm is most impacted. Basketball takes a great deal of gym time.
- Montgomery County Recreation won a NACo award for Camp Long Branch, a program to benefit adopted children. Department hopes to do it again in the future.
- Held a Bike Rodeo at Damascus Community Center.
- US DOJ settled its lawsuit with Montgomery County, providing the County with time to retrofit all facilities to be ADA compliant. Parks will be obligated to comply, as well.

#### Parks Update – Mary Bradford

- Will forward past Parks Director reports
- Reported on Oakley Cabin event – lively historic presentations of the African American Underground Railroad.
- Held meetings with fellow agencies regarding snow removal at Parks facilities.
- Will hold a briefing on the new Montgomery County Parks Foundation, after the first of the year, which has been reconstituted as a membership/fundraising organization.
- Can keep track of favorite parks project by going on [ParkProjects.org](http://ParkProjects.org)
- Fenton Street Community Gardens posted some amusing things on YouTube
- Enterprise Fund – Christine Brett
  - New initiative – Park Play Dates
  - Woodlawn held an Open House
  - Successful FAM Tour in Montgomery County and Prince George's
  - Successful Halloween and skate programs
- PROS Update and Overview – Tanya Schmeiler
  - A presentation and materials were distributed on the 2012 Park, Recreation and Open Space [PROS] Plan

#### Local Boards Update

- Down County – discussed how regions are currently configured and operating; looking at clearer division; quarterly vs. monthly meetings; Brickyard litigation moving forward; Club Friday going well.
- Eastern County – Eastern County Jazz Festival was held at East County Community Center; job fair at Praisner Community Center was packed, thanks to parttime staff; successful Halloween parties; security cameras fell short at Praisner; no computer labs at new facilities due to servicing and diminishing usage
- Mid County – no report – rep absent
- Up County – staff is directed to ask Area One director to forward their reports or any issues to Down County and staff so that their issues are presented to the Board.

#### Recreation Facility Development Plan 2010-2030 – Jeff Bourne

- This is the plan for facilities which is emerging from Vision 2030.
- Received a presentation of the plan/overview/final staff draft.
- Discussion ensued
- Final comments are welcome before the next meeting on December 5.

#### Old Business – George Tarrico

- How do we deal with the “assaults” as to our future
- What is our position as to how we should be working/how we are structured, etc.

#### Future Agenda Items

- Artificial turf fields – perhaps in February – Mary Bradford to look into