

COUNTYWIDE RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
JANUARY 7, 2013  
MEETING NOTES

Present: James Krzyminski, David Magill, Mark Pharaoh, Chris Richardson, Sean Thomas Smith, Michael Waters, James Zepp.

Gabe Albornoz [Rec], Steve Beach [CUPF], Jeff Bourne [Rec], Mary Bradford [Parks], Christine Brett [Parks], Tony DeVaul [Park Police], Charles Kauffman for Morton Davis [Commission on Aging], and Susan Hoffmann [Rec].

Absent: Rose Alvarez, Erik Johnson, Paul Lofgren, Ron MacNab, Clara Pribluda [resigned], George Schlapo, Don Shulman, Felecia Wilson, Ursula Hermann [MCPS], Kamran Rasul [Commission on Disabilities], and Robin Riley [Rec].

Guests: Karen Warnick [Parks]

Chair Report – Chris Richardson

- Chair Richardson welcomed everyone and introduced guests.
- Meeting Agenda and December 3, 2012 Meeting Notes were unanimously approved.

Rec Update – Gabe Albornoz

- Basketball started this week. This is our second largest program. The numbers are up from last year. We have seen a 12% increase in the Down County: Bethesda and Potomac.
- The next big budget item will be our CIP submissions due in three weeks. There will be reductions recommended this year. The County Executive will be suggesting that the OMB MARC should be a bit larger. In case sequestration is implemented, however, there will be County impacts which have been equated to a five % decrease. After Montgomery County Recreation meets with OMB, OMB will refine our request and bring it to the County Executive, who will look at all departments' recommendations and present the FY 14 budget to the County Council.
- Montgomery County is recommending better transportation access for seniors, beyond Ride-On.
- Expansion of our Summer Camps Program will enhance our Positive Youth Development efforts.
- Healthy Montgomery is a comprehensive Countywide effort planned to tackle obesity and encourage our residents to be more active and to live active

lifestyles. The kickoff event is scheduled for June, Montgomery County Recreation's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. More information in February.

- Had a very exciting meeting with representatives interested in developing a Children's Museum. The museum would be a great amenity for the County. We are looking at converting a Rec space to house them on an interim basis while they explore opportunities. May be somewhat controversial, since we would be taking a space out of use. The museum will highlight the diversity of Montgomery County and provide a STEM concept, as well. Gabe plans to bring a representative to a future meeting.

#### CIP Update –Jeff

- On March 7, the Countywide Recreation Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair will sit with the Planning Board to review CIP Budget requests and comments from residents. This will be the first of six sessions. Regional citizens advisory boards also provide input.
- The Wheaton Community Recreation Center will be developing an ad hoc advisory committee. We will ask the Mid County Area Board to provide a representative.
- Construction at Plum Gar Community Recreation Center made up nine days.

#### Parks Update – Mary Bradford

- The Director introduced Karen Warnick who provided a handout and presented the Parks budget. Ms. Warnick will email her power point which will be distributed by staff. The presentation was followed by discussion and Q&A.

#### Christine Brett – Chief of Enterprise Division

- In the process of brickwork and flagstone improvements at Seneca.
- Booked for the inauguration at Woodlawn. An RFP was let for improvement of the roof at Woodlawn.
- Ice facilities are almost comparable to last year. Ice and tennis are doing well.
- The debt service was retired at both Wheaton and Little Bennett Parks. Reinvestment will go into improvements.

#### Local Board Reports

- Eastern County, Mark Pharaoh – there was no one in attendance at the last board meeting, so there is no report.
- Mid County, Paul Lofgren – absent

### Ex Officio Reports

- Community Use of Public Facilities, Steve Beach – CUPF moved to 255 Rockville Pike. They are starting their winter schedule. April starts the summer schedule, which is their 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest. Requests for space must be in by the end of February. They will be meeting with MCPS on Monday to review the construction schedule. They will be adding artificial turfs to high schools.
- Commission on Aging, Charles Kauffman for Morton Davis – in December, the County Council adopted recommendations of the Commission on Aging to make Montgomery County A “Community for a Lifetime” in the next 3-5 years. The County plans to support transportation to and from Montgomery County Recreation Senior Centers.
- MCPS – Ursula Hermann – absent
- M-NCPPC Police, Chief Tony DeVaul – will represent the agency at the 57<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration. In his absence, Lt. Meixsall will be in charge. Park Police will be fully reimbursed. The 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Keith Joseph Baseball Tournament will be held on January 22 for 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> graders at the Mid County Community Recreation Center. The Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge is on January 25 in the Chesapeake Bay to benefit Maryland Special Olympics. The Chief will send the link for information. They have two retirements at the officer level, as well as his vacancy.

### Old/New Business

- Chair Richardson requested that both Recreation and Parks staffs provide marketing and public relations action items
- Mary Bradford emphasized that they are particularly useful at budget time. She also mentioned that she will be bagging groceries at the Silver Spring Whole Foods on 5% Day for the benefit of Parks.
- Gabe Albornoz mentioned that for Healthy Montgomery program, he would like to see 4 or 5 projects with a beginning and an end.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

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