

Sports Advisory Committee

February 19, 2026 Meeting

Meeting Location

13850 Travilah Rd, Rockville, MD 20850

Attendance

Members Present (in-person)

- Princess Clemente
- Samantha Griffin
- Trish Heffelfinger
- Amy Lopez
- David Schardt
- Tom Cove
- Steve Solomon, ex officio
- Mary Kate Crawford
- Derrick Thompson, ex officio
- Tony Korson
- Carl Weber, ex officio
- Christopher Wajda
- Mark Comer, ex officio

Members Not Present

- Ben Corb
- Doug Schuessler
- Rick James
- Jay Goldstein
- Tina Won Sherman

Proof of Quorum

Quorum was met.

Staff Present

- Jason Fasteau

Guests

- Caprina Pipion-Williams, Unsung Hero awardee
- Gabe Albornoz, Director of Montgomery County Recreation
- Dave Modi

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tom Cove at 6:15pm.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

The January 2025 meeting agenda was approved at 6:16pm

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The January 2025 meeting minutes were approved at 6:16pm

Meeting Minutes Agenda Items

1. 2026 Priorities and Committee Structure (Mary Kate Crawford presentation)
 - a. Recap on survey to SAC members
 - b. Priority areas
 - c. Committee Structure and Procedures
 - i. Executive / mission alignment group
 - ii. Task-based priorities
 - Youth Sports Summit
 - Recognition / Unsung Heroes
 - Program Directory
 - Artificial Turf
 - iii. Topic area / time-bound groups
 - Coordination & systems-building
 - Information access & public awareness / communication
 - Equity-focused funding & advocacy

- Facilities, fields & infrastructure planning
 - Coaching, workforce & program quality
 - d. Questions and Discussion
 - i. Agreement on terms / recommendations from survey findings
 - ii. Discussion on priority topic areas and/or deliverables
 - Ex. sports directory, strategic community engagement, artificial turf, middle school, coaching, etc.
 - e. ACTION: We are committed to moving forward on updating committee structure and procedures to be more strategically focused and accountable (e.g., prioritize systems, actionable wins, and emphasis on coordination, visibility, and equity)
 - f. ACTION: Send ranked list to Mary Kate on working group preferences; Move forward on identifying deliverables for top priorities before next meeting
 - i. Turf Fields & Advocacy - Tom
 - ii. Recognition - David
 - iii. Program Directory - Mary Kate
 - iv. Youth Sports Summit - Amy
2. Turf fields update
- a. ACTION: Develop an advocacy brief outlining context, talking points, data, stories/feedback from students, etc. to support conversations
3. Youth Sports Summit Preliminary Plan (Amy presenting)
- a. Goals
 - b. Proposed Location & Date
 - i. Silver Spring Rec & Aquatic Center, Friday Oct. 2nd or 9th 2026
Tentatively 8am-2pm; +/- 100 attendees in social hall
 - c. Proposed Structure
 - d. Next Steps
 - i. ACTION: Attendee invitations: Add to the [Stakeholders document](#) and check column "O" (MoCo sports organizations/funders, government officials, and funders)
 - e. Discussion
 - i. Consideration for exhibitors
 - ii. Possibility for updated OLO report
 - iii. Hope to record and stream event
 - iv. Capitalize on Project Play
 - v. Nomination vs invite
4. Opportunities for Advocacy
- a. Gabe - More information coming on World Cup committee

- b. LGBTQ+ community softball league looking to move to Montgomery County
5. Public Comments
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment and Next Meeting update

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be [day, date, time, location]

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.