



## **AGENDA**

Sports Advisory Committee

Nancy H. Dacek N. Potomac Community Recreation Center

13850 Travilah Road, Rockville

Thursday, June 12, 2025, 6:00 pm

**Board Members:** Princess Clemente, Ben Corb, Mary Kate Crawford, Jay Goldstein, Sam Griffin, Rick James, Tony Korson, David Schardt, Christopher Wajda,

**Absent Board Members:** Tom Cove, Trish Heffelfinger, Amy Lopez, Doug Remer, Tina Won Sherman,

**Ex-Officio:** Mark Comer, Heather Fine, Steve Solomon, Derrick Thompson, Bryan Walker

**Staff:** Adriane, Jason Fasteau

**Guests:** Sophia Russo, UMd. (community engagement intern)

6:05 pm - **Welcome** (Jason Fasteau, due to the absence of the chair and vice chair)

6:06 pm - **Pro Tem Chair Nomination**

Christopher nominated Mary Kate Crawford. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

6:08 pm - **Guest Introduction** (Sam Griffin)

Sophia Russo, community engagement intern

6:10 pm - **Review and Approve May Minutes** (motioned by Sam Griffin, unanimous approval)

6:13 pm - **Review and Approve Agenda** (motioned by Samantha and seconded by Jay Goldstein)

Unanimously approved with one correction, to add Rick James to the list of members of the Community Engagement Working Group

6:13 pm - **Sports Programming Directory Options**

See handout from Jason's email earlier this week.

This discussion of options for implementing a sports programming directory included the following topics

- Logistical challenges of delivering a web-based tool, given the increasing complexities of managing county-hosted websites. restrictions on county website
- Growing role of AI
- Alternatively, prioritize capacity building by creating a network of sports organizers, the site for which could be hosted on a non-county server. Focus on smaller orgs that would benefit more from collaboration, as well as other area rec departments. Example: Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaborative. Offer trainings and possibly funding.
- Annual printed directory that allows for full vetting of sports providers and could be linked from county sites.

Summary: The committee still sees value in and energy behind some sort of program directory but also there is new, significant energy for a tool to support providers as well as consumers.

**ACTION:** Investigate Arts & Humanities Council / other county entities

that maintain independent websites.

ACTION: Everyone should think about this issue for next meeting.

## 7:12 pm - **Working Group Reports**

- Advocacy (Ben, Jay, Tom, Tony, Steve (ex-officio))
  - Budget letter sent
  - Contacted councilmembers to be in newsletters
  - Evan Glass interested in attending a fall SAC meeting
- Community Engagement (Samantha, Princess, Amy, Rick, Sophia)
  - Have developed list of questions for stakeholders
  - Stakeholders list - Sophia has been working on
  - Next phase: interview stakeholders using questions
  - Future: make questions specifically for kids? Possibly via google form/QR codes. Could distribute to providers to give to participants
- Operations (Tina, Mary Kate, Christopher)
  - Nomination Committee for Appointments
    - Jason: We are in the queue for vacancy to be posted
  - Officer Elections
    - Overview of updated officer-elections procedure
    - Vote to approve revised procedures (Rick motioned, unanimous approval)
    - Secretary position could be an unofficially elected position. No official vote because it's not in the law, but committee could still choose to vote for it.
    - ACTION: define the formal role of the secretary before next meeting
  - Recognition (David, Trish, Princess, Steve (ex-officio))
    - Reaching out to unselected 2025 Unsung Heroes nominees to interview them
  - Communications (Mary Kate)
    - Brief overview of draft taglines

- ACTION: feedback for one more week on taglines, then will put into a google form for members to vote, also include ex officio on voting list
- ACTION: Jason would vet selected tagline with Rec communications team
- ACTION: Jason will ask about existing brand guidelines
- Campaign messages would be pushed out through county-affiliated newsletters and county social media accounts

7:35 pm - **MCPS Middle School Athletics** (Bryan Walker)

This was a follow-up discussion from Bryan's March presentation on middle school sports. Topics included:

- What are appropriate goals for middle school sports (preparation for high school athletics versus other goals) — what is the intrinsic value of middle school sports?
- Intramural data not shared with MCPS athletics dept because it's considered more general programming
- Facilities continue to be a huge barrier
  - Most middle schools only have one gym
- Also transportation (activity buses after practices/games; transportation to schools for games)
- And scheduling: activity buses only run 3x/week because Monday afternoon is teacher work time.
- Some discussion of which sports to offer

8:08 pm - **Announcements** (Jason Fasteau)

- Tours of Rec summer camps
- Next meeting at Reedie Drive office, 7/17/25
- ACTION: Christopher: work on ESS tour

8:10 pm - **Adjourn** (Rick James motioned, Princess Clemente seconded, unanimous approval)