

**Baltimore County
Board of Recreation and Parks
May 9, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

The annual Board of Recreation and Parks and Board of Education dinner meeting was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2007, at 5:00 pm at the Sherwood House, Baltimore, MD. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Recreation and Parks was held immediately following, at 7:25 pm. In attendance were chairman Jim Emerick, vice chairman Steve Verch; board members Steven Kroll, Dunbar Brooks, Althea Page, Jacob Smith, David Smylie and Wayne Definbaugh. Staff included Bob Barrett, director, John Markley, deputy director, and Lisa Liupaeter, board secretary.

Jacob Smith mentioned the new process of not going through the principal to obtain permits and wanted to know if the recreation councils were aware of this. Bob Barrett responded, "yes" stating that this was because of the maintenance going on. Mr. Barrett further stated that this process used to take 4-6 weeks and is now much faster. There was further discussion on joint use as well as everyday operations, and the process for this to work smoothly. Jim Emerick asked the board if anyone was interested in serving on the Joint Use Committee and if so, they are to inform Mr. Barrett. Mr. Emerick also requested board members to e-mail him thoughts regarding joint use.

Making note regarding two items on the agenda, Mr. Emerick reported that the board has not received anything from the Baltimore County Sailing Center or Dundalk-Eastfield Recreation Council. John Markley is to talk to Neil Magness about Dundalk-Eastfield.

Wayne Definbaugh asked Mr. Barrett for an update on the capital budget. Mr. Barrett responded stating that he would be meeting tomorrow before council. Mr. Markley stated that the department did not get all the funding from the state that had been requested (instead, the state gave \$850,000) but that the county executive did fund what we did not get. Mr. Barrett further stated that the state did not give the department all monies requested, stating that the department should use POS money but this is not possible because POS money is already committed. The money provided by the state will go towards funding the three turf fields planned for Meadowood Regional Park, Northwest Regional Park and CCBC-Essex, as well as lights at Arbutus Middle, General John Stricker Middle and County Home Park.

Regarding Joint Use of High School Stadiums, Mr. Markley stated that he has received a response to his draft. Mr. Markley stated that Roland Nickoles, Ron Belinko and Bill Wingerd had no adverse reaction to the draft, they would only need to tweak a bit.

The fields at Meadowood Regional Park are in horrible condition. The problem is that we can't rest them enough. It is either no programming or playing on bad fields. This is the perfect example of why turf fields are great!

Approval of Minutes:

Wayne Definbaugh motioned to approve the March board meeting minutes, Jacob Smith seconded, and all were in favor.

Announcements:

Jim Emerick reminded all board members that Ethics Forms are due.

Emmet Davitt and Wayne Definbaugh both enjoyed the dedication of the turf field at Catonsville.

Jim Emerick and Steve Verch attended the Perry Hall Park dedication and were pleased with the event.

Director's Comments:

Tonight's meeting with the Board of Education was very productive.

The department is currently in the process of making a selection for Keene's position. This will happen quickly. The new Chief of Recreation Services will pick up charge for joint use. The Board of Recreation and Parks and the Board of Education should remain involved.

Board Member Activities:

The next board meeting will be held on July 18th at 5 pm at the Department of Recreation and Parks in the board room.

Reports:

- A. Information Technology – Dunbar Brooks, David Smylie and Jacob Smith – no report
- B. Budget and Enterprise – Jacob Smith, Jim Emerick and Emmet Davitt – no report
- C. Incorporation and Liability – Wayne Definbaugh, David Smylie and Dunbar Brooks – no report
- D. Land Acquisition and Capital Projects – Steven Verch, Emmet Davitt and Wayne Definbaugh – no report
- E. Programs – Althea Page and Dunbar Brooks– no report
- F. Legislation – Wayne Definbaugh, Steven Verch and Emmet Davitt –no report
- G. Policy –Jim Emerick and Jacob Smith – no report
- H. Facilities – Christopher McFadden, David Smylie and Althea Page –no report

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Liupaeter