

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

WAYNE DEFINBAUGH, CHAIRMAN

Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held immediately following the annual dinner meeting with Board of Education, at 7:06 p.m. The meeting was held at Sherwood House located at 2002 Cromwell Bridge Road, Baltimore, Maryland. In attendance were David Smylie, chairman; Mike Weber, vice chairman; board members Leslie Monfred, Eric van den Beemt, Wayne Definbaugh and Dunbar Brooks. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director, Bud Chrismer, deputy director and Denise Spurrier, community supervisor, Gray Charles/Berkshire-Eastwood/Patapsco Neck-Norwood Recreation Office. Katie Carter, president and Tina Mohr, treasurer, Gray Charles Recreation Council and Fred Theiss, aide, Senator Stone's Office were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Eric van den Beemt motioned to approve the March board meeting minutes, Wayne Definbaugh seconded, and all were in favor.

New Business:

Vice Chairman Mike Weber informed the board that Larry Shackelford is out of town, but offered to partake in a conference call regarding the 1099's. Mr. Weber requested to table this item until next month. Mr. Weber will get in touch with Mr. Shackelford and if need be, invite him to the next meeting. Chairman David Smylie responded stating that Liberty Road Recreation Council had some questions about this at their last council meeting, which he attended.

Mr. Definbaugh notified Denise Spurrier that Patapsco Neck-Norwood has requested an audit. Mr. Definbaugh reported that there has been a theft allegedly by an officer; the State's Attorney is aware of this. Mr. Weber responded stating that the council should fill out the financial review form accordingly.

Mr. Smylie briefly reviewed the proposed Essex-Stembridge Constitution and By-Laws and stated that he has several questions. Discussion ensued. Deputy Director Bud Chrismer stated that he had several issues with these as well. Mr. Smylie requested that board members email him with comments/concerns by May 7. Mr. Smylie stated that he would then consolidate these comments/concerns and distribute to the board.

Director's Comments:

Director Barry F. Williams summarized the annual dinner meeting with Board of Education as productive. Mr. Williams stated that he looks forward to the opportunity to have additional dialogue with the new superintendent. In addition, Mr. Williams applauded Dr. Joe Hairston stating that he has made really good progress over the past 12 years and he leaves with high honors.

Mr. Williams informed board members that both he and Mr. Chrismer have attended several meetings with George Klunk to speak to recreation council presidents and explain the re-organization. Mr. Williams stated that they were overall well received and things have been okay.

Announcements:

Mr. Definbaugh reported that the Marshy Point Nature Center Spring Festival was a success.

Old Business:

Mr. van den Beemt informed board members that he has visited with some recreation councils in his district and reported that the common concern amongst these councils is that they do not have a clear concept as to where liability starts and ends. Leslie Monfred responded stating that the Greater Pikesville Recreation Council shares the same view and requested a list of precisely who is covered. Mr. Williams stated that his understanding is that the D & O Insurance also covers the program chairs and stated that a one-page point paper of the boards understanding is doable. Mr. Weber replied stating that the board did ask the County Attorney to attend a meeting to answer questions; they never received a response. Mr. Weber doesn't see why the board can't follow up. Mr. Smylie stated that he believes this suggestion was already made. Furthermore, Mr. Smylie stated that there have been different venues to discuss this and participation from the councils had not been overwhelming. Mr. Smylie stated that the recreation councils need to step up; when the board has sessions they need to attend. Mr. Williams suggested the board come up with a one-page document and send this to the Office of Law for comment. Discussion ensued. Ms. Monfred offered to help work on this and suggested holding a meeting, but stated that Mike Field should attend and assist. Mr. Smylie replied and again stated that the board has attempted to contact the Office of Law and has received no response; he believes this will happen again. Mr. Smylie stated that the board should prepare the one page document and forward to the Office of Law; he will work on this.

Katie Carter addressed the board providing them with an update regarding the Gray Charles Recreation Council. Mr. Definbaugh has attended three council meetings; he thinks the recreation council is progressing. In addition, Tina Mohr has just been appointed as treasurer and has been working with the bank. Ms. Mohr stated that the bank is going to contact them if there are any bounced checks and further stated that the bank has agreed to refund some of these fees. Over time, the council accumulated a significant amount in bank fees and is now a total of \$63,000 in debt.

Mr. Williams stated that he thinks the council needs to follow the appropriate steps; they should send Mr. Pettyjohn a letter stating that he has been dismissed, the reasons for his dismissal and include his rights for due process. Mr. Smylie stated that he thinks the council should provide Mr. Definbaugh with a list of what they have done thus far. Mr. Smylie would like Mr. Definbaugh to provide background to him so that he can respond to Mr. Pettyjohn's email. Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Pettyjohn's email. Mr. Smylie stated that he would respond and the council should send Mr. Pettyjohn a letter. Further discussion ensued; board members are pleased with the progress of Gray Charles.

In regards to the financial review, Mr. Weber stated that they need to form teams, ask for the re-certification and provide guidance as to what they will be looking for. Mr. Weber stated that Mr.

Smylie and Jacob Smith reviewed and commented on the draft documents and Mr. Weber stated that these documents are a start. The board reviewed the documents and brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Smylie spoke to Bill Fannon regarding the Baltimore County Sailing Center. Mr. Fannon informed Mr. Smylie that he wanted to be on the agenda to discuss their issues as he has attempted to contact the council president several times, but has yet to speak to them. Mr. Smylie stated that he could send both parties an email instructing them to meet and discuss this. Discussion ensued.

Actions:

Mr. Definbaugh motioned to accept the documents drafted by Mr. Weber regarding the financial review, Ms. Monfred seconded and all were in favor.

Mr. Definbaugh motioned to table the proposed Essex-Stembridge Constitution and By-Laws until further review, Mr. van den Beemt seconded.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Weber moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Definbaugh seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Liupaeter