

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

DAVID SMYLIE, CHAIRMAN

Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at 6:12 p.m. at the Department of Recreation and Parks administrative offices, Towson, Maryland. In attendance were David Smylie, chairman; Mike Weber, vice chairman; board members Leslie Monfred and Eric van den Beemt. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director, Bud Chrismer, deputy director and Mike Schneider, community outreach liaison.

Approval of Minutes:

Vice Chairman Mike Weber motioned to approve the September board meeting minutes, Leslie Monfred seconded, and all were in favor.

Announcements:

Deputy Director Bud Chrismer announced he was retiring at the end of the month.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman David Smylie reported that the final President's Meeting is scheduled on October 22. This meeting was rescheduled due to inclement weather. Mr. Smylie suggested coming up with a point paper at the conclusion of these meetings. Mr. Smylie further stated that the meetings have been interesting. He believes these meetings should occur annually to allow the presidents an opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns, in an attempt to operate in the most efficient manner. Eric van den Beemt and Mr. Smylie both plan to attend the meeting on October 22; Mr. Weber might be able to attend.

Director's Comments:

Director Barry F. Williams told board members Mr. Chrismer would be missed. Mr. Chrismer has been with the department for many years. There will not be a new deputy director; the county is doing away with this role.

In regards to the President's Meetings, Mr. Williams stated that the councils voiced the desire for better communication. With that said, Mr. Williams introduced Mike Schneider as the point person for the board. Mr. Schneider will serve as the liaison to this board with regard to the councils. Mr. Schneider is here to assist in many different ways. He is also the liaison with Property Management and a direct report to Behta Davis, the new chief of Recreation Services. Ms. Davis will start on Monday, October 22, at which point in time Kris Mervine will serve as the acting regional coordinator for Region 1. Mr. Williams attempted to contact each recreation council president in

Region 1, to notify them of the selection for chief of Recreation Services, and sent an email to all other recreation council presidents.

Mr. Williams discussed various topics that were brought up at the President's Meetings and stated overall, the meetings have gone well. Mr. Williams would like to continue these meetings on an annual basis.

The move is scheduled for mid December and Mr. Williams informed board members that parking would be easier for them at the new location.

Old Business:

Lisa Liupaeter pointed out that it does not appear the Back River Recreation Council (BRRC) was copied on the email Mr. Smylie sent to the Baltimore County Sailing Center, after last month's meeting. Mr. Smylie replied stating he would forward the email to the president of the BRRC. Brief discussion ensued regarding the next steps/requirements.

Mr. Chrismer reviewed the latest draft of the Essex-Stembridge Constitution and By-laws and found items that needed to be addressed. Mr. Smylie stated that he would email Wayne Definbaugh and ask him to notify the council and let them know where the board is with this.

There was nothing to report on the 1099 issue.

In regards to Patapsco Neck-Norwood (PNN), Mr. Weber spoke to Mr. Definbaugh and reported that PNN decided they would wind down their council and go out of business. They have agreed to merge with Berkshire-Eastwood. This discussion first began at a president's meeting and all parties involved are in agreement.

New Business:

Mr. van den Beemt inquired about filling the vacancies on the board. There are four vacant positions, including the student representative. Mr. Williams stated that he would talk to the County Council and Adele Kass in the County Executive's office. Mr. Smylie stated that he would like an esquire as one of the choices. Mr. Williams replied stating that if board members know someone who would be interested, this would be helpful. Board members are to think of possible candidates and notify Mr. Smylie in one week.

Ms. Monfred met with Mr. Weber and the two of them spoke with Mike Pierce, Jeffrey Budnitz and Elise Butler, in an attempt to identify what is covered and what is not covered for volunteers. Mr. Weber stated that he is amazed at how much these individuals want to help. They discussed drafting a regulation, which would need to go before the County Council, or changing some language in the County Code to suffice. The County Code doesn't include "volunteer" or "certified recreation council".

Ms. Monfred brought up the subject of background checks, which sparked further conversation amongst board members. Mr. Smylie pointed out that Baltimore County Recreation and Parks is unique in comparison to other counties. In addition to background checks, board members discussed

other options to assist recreation councils in being aware. Mr. van den Beemt suggested coming up with guidelines, which would be short and concise and no more than one page.

Mr. Weber stated that the board approved forms for re-certification and financial review, several months ago. Discussion took place regarding the time frame in which to allow the forms to be returned. Mr. Weber will draft a letter that will accompany these forms. He will send to board members for review prior to sending to council presidents.

Board members briefly discussed the committees they have been assigned to and whether or not there were any issues with this. Mr. Smylie emphasized the importance of these committees. These committees will be added to the agenda as report items. Mr. Smylie is to send this information to Ms. Liupaeter.

Action:

Mr. Weber motioned to approve the Essex-Stembridge Constitution and By-laws if changed according to those enumerated by Mr. Chrismer, and if the board receives a hard copy, they would accept. Ms. Monfred seconded, Mr. van den Beemt abstained from voting and all others were in favor.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. van den Beemt moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Monfred seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Liupaeter