

# BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

DAVID SMYLIE, CHAIRMAN

## Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, at 5:41 p.m. at the Agricultural Center located at 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, Maryland. In attendance were David Smylie, chairman; Mike Weber, vice chairman; board members Mike Milani, Leslie Monfred, Eric van den Beemt, Wayne Definbaugh, Chuck Munzert and Dunbar Brooks. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director and Beahta Davis, chief, Recreation Services.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Vice Chairman Mike Weber motioned to approve the November board meeting minutes, Eric van den Beemt seconded, and all were in favor.

### **Announcements:**

Chuck Munzert is the new 6<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District Representative for the Board of Recreation and Parks.

### **Director's Comments:**

Director Barry F. Williams announced that department headquarters has officially moved to Van Buren Lane. The next board meeting will be held at this location at which point in time everyone will have a chance to see the new office.

The department is now able to begin filling some vacant positions. Interviews will be held tomorrow for the regional coordinator position and by end of business Tuesday a candidate should be selected. There are a total of 10 people being interviewed for this position.

Mr. Williams addressed the board and stated that neither the department nor the board has any say in regards to the Mays Chapel POS conversion. As a body, the board does not weigh in on this, but everyone is welcome to stay for this meeting.

### **Old Business:**

In regards to the Baltimore County Sailing Center (BCSC), Mr. Weber sent instructions to President Brent Ostbye as to what the board requires in order to be a certified recreation council. He asked them to respond by January 9, indicating how they plan to proceed and the time line for this. Wayne Definbaugh will assist with the by-laws, and the department will provide some aid as well. Chairman David Smylie reported that the Region 4 President's Council sent a letter to the board stating they have concerns with the BCSC becoming their own council. Mr. Smylie will contact Rose Zaicko. Discussion ensued regarding the Back River Recreation Council and the BCSC.

The Essex-Stembridge Constitution and By-Laws have been approved as long as the requested changes are incorporated; however, Mr. Munzert stated that the group is still waiting to know what they need to do. Mr. Definbaugh stated that he would work with Mr. Munzert on this. Mr. Munzert stated that the group wants to move forward and will do whatever needs to be done.

Mr. van den Beemt discussed the 1099 issue and stated that the referee associations know this is coming; they are not surprised and want to work with us. Mr. van den Beemt stated that he knows of software that will be of assistance, which will eliminate writing checks. However, the leagues want to make sure that if the Baltimore County Board of Recreation and Parks directs recreation councils to no longer write checks that this happens with all leagues/teams and that all counties that participate do the same. Discussion ensued. Mr. van den Beemt stated that the IRS is getting more aggressive and he, like other board members, wants the councils to be in compliance. The board's intention is to protect the councils and keep them from getting into trouble. The referee associations can help by offering their support. Ultimately, each individual council is liable if they break the law. Mr. Weber responded stating that the board is trying to assist by bringing everyone together. Mr. van den Beemt stated that by acting now, the councils could be prepared for the fall season. Mr. Weber will draft a letter for the council presidents by the next board meeting. Mr. Williams stated that, on the department's end, we would connect with Harford and Carroll Counties.

Mr. Weber stated that the board has sent a letter to recreation council presidents regarding financial review and re-certification and, to date, have not received full compliance. He stated that the board should discuss what should happen if all councils do not comply. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Weber will draft a letter regarding this action and send to board members for review.

In regards to coverage for volunteers, Mr. Williams reported that Leslie Monfred sent him dates in which board members were available to meet with Mike Field. Mr. Field informed Mr. Williams that he would be glad to meet with the board. Mr. Williams suggested scheduling this meeting outside of the regular monthly board meetings; Mr. Field is flexible. Ms. Monfred offered dates the week after the board meeting; Mr. Williams will schedule this meeting with Mr. Field.

Board members discussed background checks, including their opinions and the county's stance on this issue. This is something the board intends to discuss with Mr. Field. Mr. Smylie suggested a vote at the next meeting on some type of position from the board. In addition, Mr. Smylie would like to discuss alternate methods and points to present to the recreation councils.

Mr. Definbaugh reported that Patapsco Neck-Norwood is merging with Berkshire-Eastwood. As for Gray Charles, Mr. Definbaugh stated that they are progressing; however, Mr. Pettyjohn has hired an attorney. Mr. Definbaugh would like to speak to Mr. Williams about this.

### **New Business:**

Mr. Definbaugh discussed an issue happening in the Southeast area in which the schools are taking over the recreation centers, storing their equipment in this area. Mr. Williams responded stating he was unaware of this issue and Beahtha Davis stated the same. Mr. Munzert stated that he is aware of this issue; they have lost rooms to the schools in his district. Mr. Munzert stated that the recreation councils have the ability to use the rooms in the evening, but they have to move the school's belongings out of the way first. Mr. Munzert stated that most of the time the schools are using this

space for music rooms and moving all of this takes up more of the volunteer's time. Ms. Davis replied stating that it does happen where schools use the rooms during the day, but they typically put equipment away before the end of the day. If this is not happening, then the recreation council needs to communicate this to the local community supervisor. Mr. Williams asked Mr. Definbaugh to gather more information and get this to Ms. Davis.

Mr. Definbaugh inquired about the fields at North Point Government Center. Mr. Williams stated that if you take away from one you need to replace with another. There are a couple of different ways things could happen, but right now this is up in the air. The plan is to maintain fields; it just might not be on this site.

Mr. Weber inquired about the potential property in Towson for a firehouse and asked if this would take fields away from recreation and parks. Mr. Williams responded stating that, per the county executive's staff, this was highly unlikely.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Mr. Definbaugh moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Milani seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Liupaeter