

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ERIC VAN DEN BEEMT, CHAIRMAN

Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held on Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Department of Recreation and Parks administrative offices, Cockeysville, Maryland. In attendance were Chuck Munzert, chairman, Greg Heitner, vice chairman; board members Leslie Monfred, Eric van den Beemt, Isaac Manjoe, Skip Hammond and Chip Hiebler. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director. Michael Ruby from the Country Chronicle was also in attendance.

Call to Order:

Chairman Chuck Munzert called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Isaac Manjoe motioned to approve the June board meeting minutes, Vice Chairman Greg Heitner seconded, and all were in favor.

Director's Comments:

Director Barry F. Williams discussed the results for the primary election, regarding the race for county executive. Discussion ensued.

Old Business:

Eric van den Beemt reported on his attendance at a recent Hereford Recreation Council meeting, stating that a new program chairperson did not know how to run the program; however, the former chairperson provided assistance. This goes back to the board's conversations regarding standard operating procedures (SOP). Mr. Munzert replied, stating that Skip Hammond has been working hard on this. Leslie Monfred questioned whether any of the policies the board has been discussing/spending time on are actually helping. Mr. Heitner replied, stating that councils are running a lot smoother. Mr. Hammond informed board members that he started working on SOP, but has not finished. He asked board members to look at what each of the councils in their area have.

Regarding Bengies-Chase Recreation Council concerns, Mr. Munzert reported that a check was recently turned over to the council. Brief discussion ensued. Mr. Munzert then discussed the situation that occurred with Back River Recreation Council, stating that the individual charged in the case violated probation, and was sentenced to 5 years in jail. Mr. Munzert referenced an article in the Essex Times about this and further discussion ensued.

New Business:

Mr. Hammond reported that the Gray Charles Recreation Council is in the process of updating their by-laws. He requested they track the proposed changes, and send the marked version to the board for review. In addition, Mr. Hammond reported that the council has a new president, stating that he and Community Supervisor Kurt Mueller met with him. During their meeting, they briefly discussed the cheer program and Kimberly Mcie, stating that this is high on the list of issues to resolve. They discussed placing the program on hold for one year, and finding someone who could dedicate 100%, to chair. Regarding the review by the State's Attorney, Mr. Hammond reported that there was very little paper trail, making it difficult to hold anyone accountable. Mr. Hammond commented on the horrible mismanagement of the program. He further stated that the Treasurer's Report, from the June meeting shows the program having a zero balance, which does not indicate missing funds. Mr. Munzert reported that Ms. Mcie has been inquiring about whether the council was moving forward on charges against her. If not, she would like it noted in the council meeting minutes, to show she has been cleared, as she feels her name has been slandered. On another note, Mr. Hammond talked to the new president about speaking to other councils regarding a possible merger. He said the council would not lose by doing so, but rather gain from this, referencing the difficulties the council has in attaining volunteers. Mr. Hammond discussed the dynamics of those councils in his area. Mr. Heitner voiced his concern regarding the merger of two weak councils, stating a weak council would be better merging with a strong council. Further discussion ensued.

Regarding the Owings Mills Recreation Council, Mr. Williams informed board members that staff investigated concerns surrounding the basketball program, and turned this over to the State's Attorney. He reported that Regional Coordinator Kara Burman was working on this, and reached some resolution; he will talk to Ms. Burman, and report to the board.

Ms. Monfred reported on the proposed revisions to the Owings Mills Recreation Council Constitution and By-Laws, stating that the council president forwarded the board's concerns to another member [on June 21] to handle. Ms. Monfred stated that the Board of Recreation and Parks is waiting on the requested revisions, before taking a vote.

Regarding the meeting with the State's Attorney, Mr. van den Beemt reiterated what he stated at the last meeting, that Adam Lippe's past presentation was excellent; he could do this again and then open the floor for questions. Mr. Hammond suggested adding discussion on recent issues. Mr. Williams agreed. Mr. van den Beemt stated the need to strongly encourage the councils to attend. Discussion ensued. Mr. Munzert suggested the need to secure a date first and moving forward from there.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Hammond moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Heitner seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Winters