

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ERIC VAN DEN BEEMT, CHAIRMAN

Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Department of Recreation and Parks administrative offices, Cockeysville, Maryland. In attendance were Eric van den Beemt, chairman, Chuck Munzert, vice chairman; board members Mike Milani, Leslie Monfred, Greg Heitner, Brian Weir, Chip Hiebler, Robbie Leonard and Lexie Lieberman. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director, Beahta Davis, chief, Recreation Services and Michael Schneider, community outreach liaison.

Call to Order:

Chairman Eric van den Beemt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Chip Hiebler motioned to approve the January board meeting minutes, Robbie Leonard seconded, and all were in favor.

Board Member Activities:

Brian Weir announced that he received an email stating that Gray Charles Recreation Council has obtained their 501(c)(3) status.

Vice Chairman Chuck Munzert informed board members that he belongs to the Middle River Roundtable and recently attended a meeting. At this meeting, it was stated that the group that wanted to get involved with Eastern Regional Park has backed out. Mr. Munzert reported that the group is still working on their project; they may be able to work out another agreement with the county at a later date.

Chairman's Report:

Mr. van den Beemt urged board members to attend recreation council meetings, and encouraged them to attend a meeting they have not yet been to.

Director's Comments:

Director Barry F. Williams informed board members of the passing of Neil Magness. He announced that a gathering, in celebration of Mr. Magness' life, will be held in March (date to be determined). Donations made in honor of Mr. Magness will be used towards a bench at a site chosen by his children.

Mr. Williams reported that he, Beahta Davis and Chris McCollum met with the State's Attorney. He indicated that there were two different meetings, with two attorneys in attendance at each. Mr. Williams reported that the meetings went well and the State's Attorney's Office is on the same page. They plan to conduct investigations and expose illegal activity; all violators will be prosecuted. During the meeting, discussion ensued regarding the State's Attorney's Office conducting a training for all councils. This would cover what councils should be doing and what could /will happen, if not. We are currently in the process of selecting dates for the spring president's meetings, and will select a date for this training as well. The training will most likely be held at

Oregon Ridge Lodge, in April or May. Mr. van den Beemt replied stating that we should do what we can to make this mandatory.

Mr. Williams announced that Leslie Monfred was reappointed to the board.

Old Business:

Mike Milani led a discussion regarding the Lansdowne-Riverview Recreation Council. Both he and Mr. Hiebler plan to attend the March council meeting. Mr. van den Beemt asked them to have a recommendation for the board at the April meeting.

Mr. Munzert reported that he has spoken to Colleen Baugher regarding Ballestone Mansion and the Back River Recreation Council Constitution and By-Laws. He told Ms. Baugher that the board is working on their by-laws. Ms. Davis commented that the side notes on this document need to be removed before giving this back to the council. Her assistant has the software needed to make these changes. Ms. Davis stated that these changes will be made, and the document forwarded to the council, prior to the next council meeting. Mr. Munzert relayed that the treasurer informed him that he cannot obtain the necessary information from the council to complete a treasurer report. Brief discussion ensued. Mr. Munzert has been consistently attending their council meetings. The council was given until March to get everything in order; Mr. Munzert stated that he does not see anything changing.

Mr. Williams stated that he saw John Cox and asked him whether or not Mike Field had contacted him about his concerns with regard to background checks. Mr. Cox stated that he had not made contact.

Mr. Weir reported that Turner Station Recreation Council has not sent their by-laws back to the board; however, at the Region 4 president's meeting, the council president told him she would send this to Ms. Davis. Ms. Davis replied stating that she has not received anything. Mr. Weir will contact the council president.

New Business:

Mr. van den Beemt informed board members that the Bear Creek Recreation Council agreed to reduce the suspension imposed upon Mr. & Mrs. Keffer and Mr. & Mrs. Aro. Mr. van den Beemt drafted a letter indicating the board's decision to side with the council and uphold their suspension. The letter also states that the council has agreed to reduce the suspension from one (1) year to six (6) months, with the understanding that they have already agreed to not participate in future Bear Creek Recreation Council programs/activities. Board members were asked to review the letter. See item under "Action."

Mr. Milani spoke to the board as the chair of the nominating committee, for the election of officers for the Board of Recreation and Parks. He presented the slate of officers, which is as follows: Eric van den Beemt for chairman and Chuck Munzert for vice chairman, and voted for the slate. Mr. van den Beemt took a moment to acknowledge the board and all that they do.

Action:

Mr. Munzert motioned to approve the letter regarding the Bear Creek Recreation Council's suspension appeal, and to send this to Mr. & Mrs. Keffer and Mr. & Mrs. Aro. Greg Heitner seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mr. Milani voted for the proposed slate of officers for the Board of Recreation and Parks.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Hiebler moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Munzert seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Liupaeter