

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS

ERIC VAN DEN BEEMT, CHAIRMAN

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Baltimore County Recreation and Parks Board was held on Wednesday, November 9, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Department of Recreation and Parks administrative offices, Cockeysville, Maryland. In attendance were Chuck Munzert, vice chairman; board members Mike Milani, Leslie Monfred, Isaac Manjoe, Greg Heitner, Brian Weir, Robbie Leonard and Lexi Lieberman. Recreation and Parks department staff included Barry F. Williams, director; Behta Davis, chief, Recreation Services, Michael Schneider, community outreach liaison and Bob Smith, regional coordinator, Region 3.

Call to Order:

Vice Chairman Chuck Munzert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Board Member Activities:

Mr. Heitner reported, to the best of his knowledge, he has been reappointed to the board. Director Barry F. Williams stated that, in addition to Mr. Heitner, Mike Milani and Mr. Munzert's terms expire on December 31.

Brian Weir reported that the sign for Bob Nozeika Playground at Dinnie Field has been installed, and announced that it made the Dundalk Eagle. He thanked Behta Davis, remarking that the sign looks great! In addition, Mr. Weir reported that the Region 4 President's Meeting, with Mr. Williams, is this Monday.

Director's Comments:

Mr. Williams announced the soft opening of Angel Park, which was held on Thursday, and the official opening, held on Sunday. Brief discussion ensued. Mr. Heitner stated that he passes the site every day and it is always packed; the library is bustling as well. Mr. Williams reported on a comfort station to be constructed at the site, and further stated that the community is in the process of fundraising for this. He suggested they put in a concession type area as a means for revenue, to assist with upgrades/maintenance for the site. Mr. Williams stated that the county has currently contributed \$300,000. Furthermore, Mr. Williams stated that this was a great idea that turned into a wonderful execution.

The Lake Roland Nature Center is now open. Mr. Williams stated that this is a beautiful park, and encouraged board members to visit all of our parks.

Mr. Munzert inquired about the "Pie in Your Face" booth that Mr. Williams participated in for FallFest 2016. Mr. Williams told board members about the event, stating that it was a nice event to kick-off the United Way campaign.

Comments by Individual Citizens:

Janet Miller came before the board to discuss various issues. She reported she initially contacted Mike Schneider regarding background checks, and members of the Board of Recreation and Parks. She stated she was happy to see 9 out of 10 members had completed their background check. In addition, she requested that Shane Gleason be removed from the list of approved volunteers, as he was convicted of stealing funds from the Back River Recreation Council. Board members agreed that Mr. Gleason should be removed, further stating that if they are made aware of situations such as this, action needs to be taken to remove these individuals from the list. County staff replied stating they would have him removed.

Ms. Miller further stated her concerns with regards to the Back River Recreation Council. She claims they are not following their by-laws, the revision date is incorrect and three officers are not on the list of approved volunteers. She also stated that she has concerns with the officers and the way they are towards her program. Ms. Miller voiced her concerns regarding treasurer's reports, overdraft and spending from the general fund. She wants the organization to run as a 501(c)(3) organization should, and suggested a merge with Middle River Recreation Council. In addition, she stated the council did not hold an election. Mr. Munzert stated that he would attend the next council meeting, possibly accompanied by another board member. Discussion ensued amongst board members.

Old Business:

Board members discussed sending the recertification letter and accompanying documents to council presidents.

Regarding concerns with the Essex-Stembridge basketball program, Mr. Munzert reported that the council executive board met with the gentleman in charge of the program and an agreement was reached to refund parents half the money, as the program participants only received half of what they were supposed to receive. Mr. Munzert believes this has been resolved. Board members discussed refund policies and the idea of incorporating this into Best Practices. Mr. Williams stated that he would inquire about refund policies at the next President's Meeting.

New Business:

Leslie Monfred suggested the implementation of a reminder system, to assist with keeping volunteers up to date with their background check. Brief discussion ensued. Ms. Davis replied stating that she would ask staff to assist with reminding volunteers to complete the background check, each year as instructed. In addition, Ms. Davis stated that they would look into adding this component when they renegotiate the existing three year contract.

Board members received the proposed revisions to the Parkville Recreation Council By-Laws. Mr. Heitner stated that the revisions seem to be pretty straight forward. See item under "Action."

Action:

Robbie Leonard motioned to approve the proposed revisions to the Parkville Recreation Council By-Laws. Mr. Milani seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Munzert moved to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Heitner seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Winters