

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2017

Present: Lola Skolnik, Betty Sonneveldt, Stephane Eding, Marc Siegel, Kelly Ivy, Michael Lee, Jake Chesnutt and Lester Whitmer

Absent: Brandon Gordon

Staff: Julie McHale

Council Liaison: Mayor Emmet Jordan unable to attend due to budget work-session

Visitor : Adeola Ariyo

- Lola Skolnik called the meeting to order at 7:35pm
- Having all but one member present, introductions were done all of the Board
- Motion to approve March minutes made by Lola and seconded by Kelly. Minutes approved and accepted with minor edits, 8-0
- Jake served as the PRAB representative on the Grant Review Panel for the new Recognition Group process; this panel met on Saturday, April 15 from 12:30pm-4:30pm. Jake was limited on the amount of information he could share since Council had not seen the report prior, however, he reported on the following:
 - In addition to Jake, others serving on the panel included a member from CRAB, AAB, YAC, SAC; all committee members were prepared and engaged in discussing the applications
 - The meeting lasted approximately 4-4.5 hours
 - Nicole DeWald, Greg Varda and Debbie Coulter were the staff present at the meeting to assist with any questions regarding the 'process'. Debbie Coulter took minutes of the meeting.
 - After review and discussion, the panel's recommendation to Council came in under the proposed FY 18 budget amount
 - Once the Grant Review Panel's recommendation, staff's accompanying report and the minutes have been shared with Council, PRAB will be able to review
- PRAB is requesting that the new City Manager attend one of our meetings. Julie will contact Ms. Ard in find out her availability for the PRAB May 17 or June 21 meeting.
- Next on the agenda, was the review of the new Basic Certification application THE GEMZ, Inc.
 - Ms. Ariyo, Director for GEMZ, Inc. was in attendance
 - She stated that this group has been in existence for about 10 years and is currently renting space at the Community Center
 - The mission of the group is to mentor young women between the ages of 11-18
 - Girls come from Greenbelt, Lanham and Bowie schools
 - They currently meet the first Saturday of each month
 - Some of the areas that the group works on include financial literacy, entrepreneurship, manners, etiquette, college applications
 - There is a membership fee of \$100 per person/ scholarships are available
 - Within the last year they just started working with women 35-50
 - This older group is more online and only meets in person twice a years

- The Board had a brief discussion regarding GEMZ, Inc and overall was pleased with their mission. Lola made the motion to recommend GEMZ, Inc for Basic Certification and Kelly seconded the motion. The motion was approved 8-0
- Recreation Department Updates
 - Julie provided updates on the following:
 - Spring Camp numbers increased from last year
 - Youth Center Spring Camp had 41 registered
 - Circus Camp had 26 registered
 - Spring Fast-Break Basketball Camp had 29 registered
 - Summer Camp Registration is going strong. All of the sessions for Circus Camp are full with a waiting list
 - Annual Egg Hunt and the Underwater Egg Hunt a huge success
 - April 21, SHLRC Spring Skate Series begins
 - April 22, Earth Day
 - May 7, Women's Bike Ride
 - Applications for Summer Camp hires have been posted online for those 18+ to apply
 - Applications for GAFC pool staff hires have been posted online for those 16+ to apply
 - Celebration of Spring
 - Proposed FY 2018 Budget is online. Recreation Department will present on May 3 at the SHLRC beginning at 7:30pm.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Julie McHale