

**Minutes to PRAB Meeting
03/21/2012**

Members Present: Lester Whitmer, Paula Clinedinst, Kelly Ivy, Ken Blue, Chris Husker
Vice Chair: Betty Sonneveld
Staff liaison: Julie McHale
Members excused: Alice Murphy, Michael Lee, Lola Skolnik (Chair)
Unexcused: Jay Shay, Marc Siegel

Meeting was called to order 7:40pm by Vice Chair, Betty Sonneveld. Chair is out of the country so Vice Chair led the meeting.

LPaula made a motion to approved the February 29 minutes– Ken Blue seconded; Minutes for February 29, 2012 were approved

Congratulations to Greg for being appointed as Acting – Betty Sonneveld

Julie gave her update which also included congratulations to Greg Varda, who was appointed ACTING, Assistant Director of Programs effective March 19, 2012

Julie also announced the hiring of Frank Jones, Recreation Coordinator I for the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Frank will begin on April 3, 2012.

Betty talked about the fifty percent discount at the GAFC-

- she mentioned that it took her three (3) visits to get her pass
- Julie will give the GAFC an updated list of Board Members
- Betty reminded members to keep the letters stating that they are a PRAB member

Julie announced the price and number of the 75th GALA tickets and stated that in the first day 26 tickets were sold – get your ticket now!

Ken Blue talked about the GMSTF-

- talked about how the School Board has taken back the money that was originally promised to the City IF they were to want the building
- talked about the Turning Point Academy (TPA) a Prince George’s County Charter School expressing interest in space in the old Greenbelt Middle School (GMS)
- talked about the letter that Dr. Hite wrote saying that the City was not promised money IF they were interested – go back on their agreement
- then said that the City would actually owe them money if were to rent it out to anyone else
- all the work has been done if the school board was to- let it go – what would the City do with it
- Paula asked how PRAB got involved with the GMS
- Ken said that right now it looks like TPA is more than likely going to get space

- Betty was talking about what a good idea a computer lab would be for the GMS – many students do not have access for a computer to do their homework

Review of the Contribution Groups:

Orin Howard came about 8pm to represent the **Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club**

Betty gave introductions

Betty gave thanks to Orin Howard

Orin explained that some sports fall in a different cycle than the City's Fiscal Year

- Orin stated that there was no records given to him so he has had to start from scratch; right now he has the taxes up-to-date through 2009;

Betty asked: -Why does B&G Club even pay taxes?

- A lot of discussion took place about who owns the equipment – the City or B&G Club??
- Julie needs to look into this and come back to PRAB with information at the next PRAB meeting on April 18

Orin Howard – Stated that this is what the comptroller explained to him

-Orin is looking for a Non- Profit tax person – someone who specializes in taxes for non-profit organizations

-Says that he has a 5-10% turnover rate of equipment each year between OLD equipment and 'lost' equipment

Kelly was upset that the B&G club owns the equipment and therefore they have to pay taxes- he wants to know why the City doesn't own the equipment when the City is the one purchasing it

Orin talked about changing the fee structure to a per sport registration fee but in the past everyone paid for a full year of sports (instead of individual sports)

- how do we bring the constituents together (i.e. soccer/track and football/basketball)
- Orin stated that it was a very unhealthy process when he went to the work-session last year with the City Council
- Kelly mentioned that B&G Club was brought down with a previous President who went through much of the Club's money
- Orin continued by asking: How do we bring all the people together both internally in the club and externally with the different neighborhoods
- Bulk of the age is 7-10
- Turnover rate of youth is pretty consistent
- Orin talked about the online registration process and some of the other new things he has implemented during his term

Ken asked about the turnover the Board – he asked Orin if he is training the new people to take over

Betty talks about the Swim Team taking a \$50.00 deposit and if you volunteer four times than you get the money back at the end of the season.

Review of the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance (GSA)

-Dave Whiteman and John Stith from GSA came in about 8:30pm

Why does the GSA Club need money – Kelly

Dave stated that the club is currently about \$3000 in debt and that is why he is asking for money and that this should be recovered within two years. \$1425.00 in loans – By June 30, 2012 loans should be paid off and the balance zero

Kelly asked why the games were played in Hyattsville and Takoma Park and never in Greenbelt

Summer soccer in intramurals – was played over 6 weeks at Mandan Road according to Mr. Whiteman

Betty complimented the GSA on the donation of soccer equipment to the intramural program at SHL Elementary and gaining the 501C-3 status in just one year

Dave Whiteman stated that there are more Franklin Parks players now than last year (about 10 players for this year)

Kelly stated that the City does not want to continue to fund programs that are in competition with other City programs

Dave stated that he would like to have a meeting with B&G Club, Recreation and GSA to discuss the guidelines and ‘when a six year old is a six year old’ –

Ken has asked that we should have a meeting and Recreation needs to clarify the guidelines of who is allowed to do what

Kelly stated that he thinks that the Recreation Dept. should run the program –

Julie will follow up with the B&G Club; the GSA; and Recreation to hold a meeting and try to develop guidelines of who is allowed to do this -

Kelly asked Dave Whiteman – is it compensation for coaching or are they paying the coaches

Ken stated that we need to discuss this as a group

Dave Whiteman – states that the way they compensate their coaches is pretty normal with other area sports groups

Maryland Youth Soccer Association – to play on a travel team

Dave is saying that the GSA provides opportunities that the B&G club cannot

Talked about the history of soccer in Greenbelt

Paula talked about the meeting with the City should include why we need the different groups; why we are made to offer the different program

Julie asked if there were any other questions from GSA

- Dave stated that free coaching classes are offered by the Maryland Youth Soccer Assoc. and would the City be willing to host one of these training programs
- Dave also said that his program is expanding and he wanted to know if the City could 'redo' the Mandan Baseball in-field portion so that GSA could use it

Vote on Recognition Groups-

All of the Recognition Groups who submitted an application for FY 2013 were
PRAB recommended w/o reservation; 6-0

Vote on Contribution Groups

Aquatic Boosters, Babe Ruth, Greenbelt Baseball, Sity Stars, Sr. Softball, Golden Age Club
PRAB Recommended w/o reservation – 6-0

Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club

Must attend the meeting with GSA and the City about the Soccer guidelines

PRAB Recommend w/o reservation – 6-0

Greenbelt Soccer Association

Recommend WITH reservation -

Reservation on the competing of the age groups with B&G & City;
Reservation with the longevity of the club;
Recommendation of a meeting with the City and Boys and Girls Club before April 18 where guidelines are written by the City and submitted with the application for next year;

PRAB Recommended with reservation – 6-0

Kelly brought up the idea of all facilities to have Rec Card – INCLUDING THE TENNIS COURTS; SIGN UP SHEETS AT THE COURTS; - tabled for another meeting –

Also tabled for another meeting is the compensation of coaches– what should we allow; percentage of membership; should it be universal; the city is taking a look at guidelines for this –

Motion to adjourn by Ken Blue– and Paula Clinedinst seconded the motion at 9:30pm

Respectfully submitted: JJM
April 20, 2012