

**PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 20, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Jacob Chesnutt, Ric Gordon, Lola Skolnik, Betty Sonneveldt, and Kristen Weaver.

**Staff:** Greg Varda, Acting Director of Recreation Programs  
Debbie Coulter, Administrative Coordinator

**Excused:** Les Whitmer

**Absent:** Marc Siegel, Michael Lee, Mayor Jordan

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Meeting called to order at 7:35pm by Chair, Jake Chesnutt.

February minutes were approved.

**Recreation Updates – Greg Varda**

- Department Activities
  - The Greenbelt Youth Musical was a big success with all 4 shows being sold out.
  - Spring classes have begun
  - Underwater Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 19.
  - The Annual Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 20.
  - Bike to Work Day is scheduled for May 17
  - Celebration of Spring is scheduled for May 18.
  - Greenbelt Day Weekend is scheduled in June.
- The department is still in the budget process.
  - Minimum wage State Legislation has been approved to \$15.00/hr to gradually be implemented by 2025.
  - Budget meetings are scheduled for:
    - March 30 – Grant Review Panel will meet with Recognition Groups
    - April 29 – Recognition Group Work Session
    - May 6 - Recreation Budget Work Session
    - May 15 – Final Budget Review
    - June 3 – Adoption of the Budget
- The outdoor pool white-coat process will begin in April and should take 2 or 3 weeks to complete. The tile at zero depth entry will be replaced by a surface that is easier to clean and not as slippery.

**Windsor Green Presentation - Grace Fielder**

PRAB joined APB for a 50 minute presentation on upcoming renovations on the Windsor Green Community Center and the surrounding recreation area. Site plans were reviewed and PRAB was very pleased with the presentation and felt the changes were serving their community's needs well, and that the research on this project was thorough. PRAB will make a recommendation to City Council for the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in support of these changes.

### **Greenbelt Youth Baseball Little League (GYBLL)**

- PRAB received a memo from Andrew Phelan, Recreation Coordinator regarding GYBLL becoming an official local charter of the National Little League Organization, and the challenges/issues that are presented with this move. Some of the issues are:
  - It will allow for 13 & 14 year olds to remain with Little League, instead of moving to Babe Ruth.
  - The City already supports Babe Ruth which already has 13 & 14 year olds.
  - Field Usage is not conducive for their needs due to the diamond sizes, and location of playground areas being too close.
  - Additional expenses for bases, and field maintenance.
  - Recognition FY-19 Operating Grant application states nothing about offering 13 & 14 year old baseball.

The Recreation Department is hesitant to fully support GYBLL venturing into programming 13 & 14 year olds, and would like to see the 13 and 14 year olds continue to move on to Babe Ruth Baseball.

PRAB would like to see GYBLL work with Babe Ruth.

Greg stated that he will try to facilitate a meeting between GYBLL and Babe Ruth to see if they can come up with a resolution.

Greg informed PRAB that they are welcome to meet with GYBLL if they feel they need additional information.

### **Arts and Entertainment District**

PRAB discussed that there has been talk that residents would like to turn Roosevelt Center into an Arts and Entertainment District. Greg informed PRAB that a work session will be scheduled and he would keep PRAB abreast of the situation.

### **Sustainable Land Care Policy (SLCP)**

There is no scheduled work session at this time. PRAB feels it is imperative to get this policy in place as soon as possible, and the time and efforts spent on this has taken too long. Without this policy the ballfields are in bad shape, and will continue to deteriorate. PRAB will be willing to attend a work session on the SLCP to finalize and put this policy into place. PRAB will make a recommendation to City Council.

### **Beltway Plaza Redevelopment**

The developer's Concept Plan went to the Prince George's County Planning Board. A report was sent and they accepted everything but the recommendations from the City. The Prince George's County Planning Board stated that they no longer make approvals with recommendations. The developer met with Greenbelt's Planning Department and it seems they will work with the City to develop an approved Concept Plan and work out a MOU between the developer and the City.

No new business.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2019. Betty, Kristen, and Les will not be able to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm