

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2017

Present: Lola Skolnik, Betty Sonneveldt, Marc Siegel, Stephane Eding, Jake Chestnutt and Lester Whitmer.

Absent: Kelly Ivy, and Michael Lee

Staff: Julie McHale unable to attend the meeting

Council Liaison: Mayor Emmet Jordan unable to attend due to meeting conflict

- Lola Skolnik called the meeting to order at 7:35
- Motion to approve June minutes, September minutes and October notes was made by Betty and seconded by Marc. Minutes approved and accepted 5-0
- Recreation Department Updates
 - ✓ Recreation and Park Amenities RFP update – Lola stated that everyone should look over the RFP update and send comments to Julie or Lola. It is FYI
 - ✓ Jake stated that stakeholders should be asked for input before RFP goes out.
 - ✓ Lola said her interpretation is that meetings with PRAB will come after the bid is accepted.
- Recognition Group applications. PRAB was asked to make a recommendation for the one new Basic Certification.
 - ✓ It was stated that PRAB did not know what Basic Certification is.
 - ✓ PRAB was told it could make a recommendation on the new GSA request to receive funding. PRAB does not recommend GSA get funding.
 - ✓ There was discussion to give new PRAB members a history of PRAB's review and recommendations of past requests from GSA. When GSA came to PRAB initially for funding it was stated by GSA that there was not a soccer program suitable for young children in Greenbelt as the Boys and Girls Club soccer program had young children playing on full sized fields, and that there was a league available in Hyattsville. The City of Greenbelt does operate a soccer program for 4-5 year olds. Because GSA was going into a league outside of Greenbelt, PRAB did not recommend funding. Lola asked if there was a way to bring GSA into Greenbelt.
 - ✓ Lola also stated that PRAB has for many years recommended to Council that Greenbelt needs a Youth Sports Coordinator.
- Lola wants clarification on what PRAB is expected to do for Basic Applications.
 - ✓ In the past, a new group (formally called a Recognition Group) would apply and then appear before PRAB for discussion and clarification of group's activities and intentions. Then, PRAB would send a report to council with a recommendation.
 - ✓ Lola will call Julie
 - ✓ Jake, PRAB's representative to the new panel that will review and make recommendations on all applications, said the next panel meeting is scheduled for April.
 - ✓ Lola then asked if PRAB members wanted to see all of the applications. A discussion occurred and a final decision was not reached.

- Attendance at meetings and number of members discussed and Lake Park Master Plan Revisions
 - ✓ Lola stated a thank-you letter should be sent to Ken Blue for his service. Ken has moved out of the state.
 - ✓ Marc asked how many members PRAB is supposed to have and what describes a quorum. Marc stated there should be an official number and it should always be an odd number.
 - ✓ In some places the number of members is listed as 11 and in some places it is listed as 12.
 - ✓ Lola will contact Julie and send out a bulleted message to board members.
 - ✓ Attendance at meeting has been sporadic. The November meeting was cancelled for lack of a quorum, as was the January meeting.
 - ✓ Betty asked who our Youth Advisory Board representative was. Lola stated that at the moment she did not know and it was difficult for that Board to keep consistent membership as the members go off to college.
 - ✓ Lola will bring up the subject of a new Lark Park Master Plan at the February 22 meeting with City Council and City Advisory Group Chairs. PRAB has been working for years on a new Master Plan. PRAB has met with Recreation staff Public Works staff and Mr. Richard Fink, Superintendent of Parks.
 - ✓ PRAB provided a blueprint, but PRAB has gotten nothing back from Public Works, Council, or any other collaborative party.
 - ✓ Ken Blue had promised a matrix, but he never sent it. Lola will contact Ken and ask him to provide the information on the Lake Park Plan PRAB worked on for three years.
 - ✓ Lola stated she will also mention at the Advisory Group Chairs meeting the as-yet pending sustainable land care policy, as well as a Youth Sports Coordinator position. The Sustainable Land Care Policy being used now was written by someone no longer with the City and a draft of a new policy has been written, but not adopted by Council.
 - ✓ Marc asked Lola to find out what is going on with the drain pipe project at the lake and is there a time frame for a bid on raising the wall.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted by Betty Sonneveldt

Approved 5-0 March 15, 2017