

Takoma Park Recreation and Community Engagement Committee
Minutes 8/18/22

Attendance: Howard Kohn, Priscilla Labovitz, Taylor Dibbert, Thomas Radman, Debby Huffman (TPRD), Ellen Marcus (Secretary), Shana Fulcher (assistant Chair)

Recreation Center update via Debby Huffman:

- Childcare – registering for fall fundays when MCPS is out
- Morning/afternoon care is full
- Looking for staff to work early morning or after school
- Classes – will introduce “breakfast for dinner”
- Meditation club – exploring technique
- Combo dance
- Rec center classes starting Sept – homework, healthy snacks, fun
- Afterhours basketball
- Senior programs – Qigong, podcasting, rhythmic dancing/drumming
- Special events – outdoor movie sept 10th
- Sports
- Teen lounge opens when school starts – esports, entrepreneurship
- Scholarships for city residents
- Some job positions have changed, see Debby’s notes
- Tomorrow last day of summer camp at Rec center

Next topic: Library and CC Renovation

- Library and Computer Center closing Aug 24th
- Limited parking at community center
- Recreation staff begins hybrid work schedule to offset parking
- Community center reno starts late fall 2023

Rec center reno is still in discussion – not happening anytime soon, but it is in discussion with a presentation to council within the next 2 months.

Irma Nalvarte, assistant city clerk, doesn’t have official *approved* minutes from any of the meetings – she needs attendance and minutes. Needs by next week to be able to pay committee members their stipend for attendances. Need by end of this weekend so she can pay everyone by the end of the month.

Recommendations by asking council members to – how many people applied to be in this committee got turned away?

Size of committee went from 15-9 but website doesn’t reflect those changes

A couple of seats for non-city residents

Shana is running for Ward 1 councilmember!

Ask permission to set up our own set of bylaws – to increase size of committee

Tom's (coaches BB) Recommendations to be brought to council:

- Middle school and HS league – 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th on the same team is a problem because the older ones are much taller larger than younger and unfair advantages
- Clarification of this makeup of league is difficult to find – transparency issue
- Suggested solutions:
 - o If games are 2 hr per week have 1 hr for young kids 1 hour for older kids
 - o have a league rising 5th & 6th Grader in one game Rising 7th & 8th
 - o Instead of full court games, half court games for the different ages
 - o Fewer kids on teams
 - o Finding/utilizing other locations

These recommendations should be sent to John Webster: johnw@takomaparkmd.gov

Invite candidates that are running for office to come to our meetings? Do we have time?

Previous meeting minutes were approved by all sitting members.

Meeting Adjourned.