

Recreation Committee Meeting, Thursday, Oct 20th, 2016 7-8:30 pm Hydrangea Room

Howard Kohn, Rochelle Coleman, Cherwanda Oliver, Priscilla Labovitz, Ray Scannell, Jen Wofford, Carolyn Leary Bobb, Pat Rumbaugh, Rachna Rikhye, Cindy Dyballa, Jay Keller, Mary Jane Muchui, Jon Worley, Ryan Scully, Tony Hynes - Invited

RSVP yes: **Jon, Jay, Cindy, Cherwanda, Carolyn Leary Bobb, Priscilla, Pat, Mary Jane, Greg Clark, Howard Staff**
RSVP No: Ryan, Rachna, Jen

10/20/2016 Agenda Items:

Staff report from Gregory Clark Director of Recreation.

Full time Partnership position approved- Seniors, youth and Disabled See Cindy's email.—note Karen Lifelong Takoma coordinator) left. \$20,000 for youth success opportunities- This is rolled into life long Takoma.

Registration for Rec Programs starting in December 15- first week of registration is reserved for TP residents.

Monster Bash, Sat- Nov 29th need judges. Jen Wofford. Cherwanda,
(Greg's son is at Bowie State- freshman on football team)

Sports Coordinator Austin Hartsoak has left to work for Gatorade in Baltimore) Sports program are pretty much running themselves with staff help.

Friends of TP Rec Center meeting report & Recreation Center Discussion.

From Greg: Good Afternoon Everyone,

Jay, I agree with the change in verbiage of the resolution to read "we urge the city council to work with staff on ideas of how to improve the rec center in the short run"...

I am not sure that adding portables would be a viable short term solution. However, I am willing to work with the Friends group and Recreation Committee in developing a list of options. If it was decided to move forward with portables, there are costs associated with renting and I am not sure what size portable would be suitable. In addition, the City would need to increase the programming and staffing budgets to support the additional classrooms which are not included in this budget. Current space at the Recreation Center is limited/awkward because of the configuration of the rooms which limits the possibilities to have multiple classroom style programs running at one time. Our Department has never had more than one classroom style program running at the Recreation Center so I'm not really sure if the demand is there to warrant the costs (renting portables, staff, programming funds). As Suzanne mentioned below, the Recreation Center topic has been added to the November 16th Council agenda. I will explain the City's approach to this meeting on Thursday.

Personally, I believe that a more modern facility with spaces that flow and are inviting would attract a broader population, thus increasing participation for multiple classroom style programs in addition to larger more active programs in the gym. We are a few years away from realizing a new and/or renovated facility and I'm getting excited about the direction and possibilities.

Let's keep the discussion alive!

Greg

Portable: would require extra staffing and more instructors (we are capacity in funding instructors) Unclear if the portable would really add capacity. City is ready to move forward with acquiring the Rec Center- Discussion on Nov 16th city council meeting. Priscilla- kids at the meeting really excited about having quiet room to do homework. Greg open to suggestions. Council would need to add money to the Rec Center for the portable, for staffing, for utilities.

Currently both rooms are not programmed because hard to have people walking through the program.

Proposal- use both rooms a Rec center by having back room use the outside door.

On Nov 16th Rec will present studies about Rec center (Land swap) RFP to developers to develop the space to see if there is interest in building both a rec center and

Land swap- IDC development in DC example see city paper. Public private partnership.

Possible program: Nov 13 workshop for young women interested in politics- summer camp option later on. Teens

Cindy proposal- We recommend double programming in Rec center rooms, stagger time, trial basis. Nov 16th long term picture with landswap Greg will ask for permission to move forward with RFP (Sarah and Suzie are leading this effort). Carolyn will take to Fred to see what he thinks. Nancy was at the Friends meeting. **Howard makes the motion** that Rec committee member attend meeting to show support Suzie's proposal and the need for expanded capacity.

One more thing. Teen party at the rec center- Teen (13 and older) night every other Friday First and 3rd is youth night (12 and under) 7 to 9 pm. In summer just teens 9-11:30 pm
Programming Free play, food, DJ, big TV with Xbox, Ping Pong, Man-up speaker.

Volunteer- need background checks. Mentoring program- what are the options. Big Brother Big Sister.

Kudos to Priscilla about Friends of TP Rec Center.

Bus between Community center and Rec Center- Staff training to get CDL.

Vince plays chess- He needs sturdy chess boards.

Any change to the minutes for September?

Mary Jane Muchi and Dr. Wolfgang Mergner have requested time to speak- **Did not show up.**

Playday report and who got the **"Spirit of Play Award"** **Cherwanda Oliver that's who!**

Monster Bash- Judges still needed??

bikeways (safe roads)- Cindy Parking committee recommended moving the bike share station at the Gazebo. Two new stations Rec center at NH and Discussion of partial subsidy for low-income. Subsidy for Adventist school. Bike riders and traffic. Laws.

Joe Edgal is the chair of the Safe Road committee.

Other items?

Jarrett Smith (Ward 5) and Peter Kovar (Ward 1), are looking at creating a taskforce on youth success- to look at all the programs that exist in the city and figure out where additional funding might go. What is the relationship with the Youth Collaborative (run by Man-up) Need to ask youth what they want.

Next meeting: November, 17th