

# MINUTES Takoma Park Recreation Committee

December 18, 2014 7pm by Vineda Myers

Attendees: Vineda Myers, Pat Rumbaugh, Julie Kurland, Howard Kohn, Ray Scannell, John Webster, Jay Keller, Cherwanda Oliver, Priscilla Labovitz.

Approval of Minutes: November 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

## Community Update:

- Play

\* Pat suggests make SSL hrs available for Celebrate Takoma, and promote this so kids know about it and will volunteer.

\* 1/3 Fitness Expo at TP Rec Cntr - possibly meet up at 10am to play together.

\* 2/8 Mid Winter Play Day 1-4pm TP Community Cntr. Need volunteers from 12-5pm. There will be 10-12 bands (will perform in auditorium), glee club, MC, balloon game, Girl Scouts (box play & face painting), Connect 4, dress-up, yoga, dance.

\* 3/28 Closing Merwood Dr. from 1-3pm for a play event. Potluck cookout. Priscilla wants to have a table asking for support for the renovation of the TP Recreation Center.

\* Would like to have a different play event every month going forward.

\* Would like an outdoor bulletin board at every playground in TP. Brian Kenner, & Daryl Breakway (head of Public Works for TP) have given permission. Landis Construction has agreed to build. Bulletin boards will be cork with Plexiglas. One side will have Landis Construction logo, the other side will have Lets Play America logo.

\* Sligo Mills 5<sup>th</sup> & Orchard is getting a playground. This is a park of Kay's legacy.

\* Colby playground is being renovated.

- Concerned that there are no Free Libraries near TP Rec Cntr. John from MC Rec provides the funding, but the property belongs to Park & Planning. Park & Planning would have to be included in the discussion to approve any additions. Jerrell needs to send this request up through the chain of command to Greg, Park & Planning, and go from there.

- Youth Collaborative: Met 12/10. Will have 4-6 week long classes starting the beginning of March and ending in April. Classes will teach approx 25 16-18year olds how to apply for a job, complete a resume, how to dress, answer online questions, how to correspond by email to an employer, etc. Will probably have 2 sets of classes. Classes will be taught by Identity, Gandhi Brigade, etc. Some kids will open their own businesses - walking dogs, mowing lawns, raking leaves, etc. Gap Busters is organizing the first group job fair, which will be held at the SS Civic Cntr in April. Attendees will include business owners from Down County to Rockville. Entrepreneurs will have a table at Celebrate Takoma and try to make connection with City residents. Will do again in Sept at Lifelong Takoma event. Brandon Johns & Bruce Baker doing budget, and Jarrett Smith will take budget to City Council to try to get midyear appropriation funding.

### Rec Department Updates:

- John thanked the Rec Committee for the holiday luncheon on 12/15 & for our support throughout the year.

- Events

\* 1/3 Fitness Expo at TP Rec Cntr from 8am-2pm. The expo will include demonstrations of Jazzercise, Ladies Boot Camp, Soca Motion, Karate, Full Body Fusion, Quick Start Tennis, Teen Fitness, etc. Health and wellness vendors will be available for presentations, seminars, and health screenings. The first 50 people to arrive will receive a free T-shirt. Jerrell is organizing this event.

\* 1/11 Winter Break Camp - full.

\* 1/17 Winter Basketball begins. All spots are already full. 630 kids. Fotsal has 54 enrolled, 6 spots remaining.

\* Winter classes registration has begun. Is going well. Senior classes' registration going well.

\* 1/19 MLK Day Celebration. 10am-1pm - Dog Park clean up (funding for Dog Park from City has been pulled. Getting bids in Jan and will see what can afford. Will probably have to scale back). Students can get SSL hrs. 5-6pm potluck dinner. 6-7:30pm Program - MC - Brian Kenner, Key Note Speaker - Brandon Johns, Community Kitchen - Lorig Charkoudian & Cheryl Sloan.

\* 5/17 Celebrate Takoma. Organizing mtg on 1/14. Need more people on this steering committee, as well as volunteers. Meetings will alternate between 4 & 6pm going forward.

- Greg is working on Conservation Core and Youth Summer Jobs Program. John will ask him about it, and give update next time.

### Additional Items of Importance:

- Would be nice to have the perspective of a teenager when making some decisions. Possible to have one on the committee? Maybe invite one a few times a year? Maybe set up a focus group to talk to some from time to time? Maybe a questionnaire or survey? Lecia may be able to speak for them since she works with them daily.

Meeting ended at 8:10pm.