

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KENT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD
August 15, 2011

Present: Faye Little, Laura Karns, Penny Usilton, and Stacey Clough

Absent: Melissa Cannon, Melinda Bookwalter, Bryan Williams, Ron Jordan, Joyce Moody, and Commissioner William Pickrum.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ACTION ON MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. Minutes of the June meeting were not approved, as there was only one member in attendance who was present during the June meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Youth Sport League Fees

- Ms. Clough informed that a partial payment has been made to address the delinquency held by the Kent County Youth Soccer League. Although a partial payment has been accepted in order for the Youth Soccer League to be accommodated for the upcoming season, it was made clear to the League President that payment in full will be required going forward.

B. Community Center Pool Policies

- Following concerns expressed by Gerry Creighton, Concessionaire, regarding pool patrons having food deliveries made to them while visiting the pool, Board Members were requested to participate in a Doodle Poll asking whether or not food in delivery containers should be permitted beyond the pool gates. Doodle Poll results indicated that the Board Members were in favor of banning food in delivery containers from being permitted beyond the pool gates.
- The Kent County Community Center Pool Policies and Procedures have now been revised to reflect the banning of food in delivery containers beyond the pool gates.
- Following an incident at the Concession stand, Mr. Creighton has now decided that he will close the stand at 5:00 p.m. daily and will not open during Night Swim. The outside pool window will no longer be open to the public. Mr. Creighton has indicated that he does not mind if patrons have food deliveries while the concession stand is closed.
 - Board Members expressed concerns that Mr. Creighton is going back and forth regarding his concession stand openings and food delivery at the pool. Mr. Creighton needs to make a concrete decision regarding this matter.

C. Merger

- A public hearing for Code Home Rule 4-2011 will be held on August 23. The legislation would dissolve the Community Center Authority and bring it under the authority of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Adoption of the legislation will tentatively take place on September 6, with an effective date of October 21, 2011.

III. PROGRAMMING UPDATE

A. Programming Update

- Ms. Clough provided highlights from the 2011 Summer Camp sessions, including:
 - Average attendance numbers from this year's sessions were as follows: Kiddie Camp- 14/day; Day Camp- 56/day; Youth In Action- 16/day; Leader's Club- 22/day; and Chestertown and Rock Hall Playgrounds- 6/day.
 - Due to low attendance, the Playground program is in jeopardy of not being offered next year. Ms. Clough informed that the daily average of 6 was not reached until mid-July.
 - Ms. Clough informed that Kiddie Campers were treated to Pizza as well as Happy Meals by generous parents.
 - Day Camp was able to participate in a Dental presentation where they were taught the importance of flossing.
 - Kiddie and Day Camps also hosted an End of the Season picnic with music, food, and activities.
 - Youth In Action participated in horseback riding. The group also participated in Girl's Circle and Boy's Circle activities with volunteers from The Alley.
 - Leaders' Club participated in team building activities at Echo Hill Outdoor School, as well as a service learning project at Turner's Creek with former Congressman Wayne Gilchrest.
- Ms. Clough informed that Session I of Swim Lessons had 30 first time participants. All of the Swim Lesson sessions were held at the Community Center with the exception of one session, which was held at Millington Pool.
- Three summer staff members were nominated for Employee of the Summer. The chosen winner was Meghan Shand, Assistant Aquatics Coordinator.
 - Ms. Shand completed a large amount of the preparation work in order to have the pools up and running on time. Ms. Shand has also served as an excellent liaison between Rick Coffin, Aquatics Program Coordinator, and aquatics staff.

B. New/Current Offerings

- Board members were provided with copies of the Fall Newsletter, highlighting new and returning program offerings including: Zumba Kids; Sport's Agility and Endurance Camp; and Adult Co-Ed Drop-In Sports Medley.
- There will be no Disney on Ice Trip for the fall season due to scheduling conflicts. Ms. Clough stated that Parks and Recreation will attempt to compensate for this loss with other programming.
- Ms. Clough informed that the Mason's Chester Lodge may potentially sponsor children's fingerprinting/swabbing during the 2011 Santa's Workshop. The genetic information gathered from the fingerprinting/swabbing will be placed on a disk for parents' reference.
- Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Department of Natural Resources and the Sassafra Environmental Education Center in order to provide two Night Hikes of the Sassafra Natural Resources Management Area in October.

- Also being offered for the first time is Walk the Gym on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning October 17. Parks and Recreation will be working with the County Roads Division to determine how many laps around the gym will equal one mile.
- Ms. Clough informed that Parks and Recreation is in need of a Gymnastics and Dance Instructors.

IV. New Business

A. Additions to the Community Center

- A floor covering has been ordered for the gym floor and is expected to be delivered within the next two weeks. The floor covering will allow functions with food and drinks to be held in the gym.
- A treadmill has recently been donated to the Community Center and Ms. Clough is looking into obtaining a second piece of exercise equipment for the facility.
- An Air Hockey table has also recently been donated by Washington College.

B. Adolescent Substance Abuse Signs

- The Adolescent Substance Abuse Council (ASAC) has been approved for grant funding to place substance abuse prevention signs around the Community Center. Ms. Butler is working with ASAC on locating a vendor for the signs, which will contain slogans and graphic art. The signs will be placed in the hallways of the Community Center. There are also plans to place the signs around Worton Park and potentially at the County's Public Landings, as the Sheriff's Department feels that these locations see issues with individuals engaging in substance abuse. The grant expires on September 30, 2011.

V. REPORTS

Turner's Creek:	<i>No Report</i>
Worton Park:	<i>Nothing to Report.</i>
Bayside/Ingleside:	<i>Nothing to Report.</i>
Betterton Beach:	<i>No Report</i>
Millington Pool:	<i>No Report</i>
Edesville Park:	<i>No Report</i>
Toal Park:	<i>Nothing to Report. Ms. Clough questioned Ms. Karns as to whether or not she feels that the back ball field at Toal Park would be useful to the public. Ms. Karns responded that this field would be useful if it were in good condition.</i>
High School:	<i>No Report</i>
County Commissioner:	<i>No Report</i>
Board of Education:	<i>No Report</i>

VI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 pm, a motion was made by Ms. Usilton, seconded by Ms. Karns, and passed by a majority of the Board to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denisha C. Brown, Office Manager