

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting
March 27, 2013**

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Brad Knatz, Jim Rodriguez, Lewis Baylor, Brian Clancy, John Marks, and Carolyn Garber

Members Excused: Bobbi Tucker, Colin Furneaux, Judy Baker and Walter Schemm

Members Absent: Gary Davis

Staff Present: Bruce Dutterer and Candy Sharrer

Ex-Officio Member Present: Jeff Degitz

The Recreation and Parks Advisory Board met on March 27, 2013 at a Hashawha meeting space. The meeting was called to order at 1:20 p.m. by board member Brad Knatz.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Brad Knatz mentioned to relay a thank you to Hashawha staff for another outstanding lunch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brad Knatz motioned to approve the February 27th meeting minutes. All concurred and minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- **Staff Update:** We have completed the interview process and will be announcing a new Bureau Chief of Recreation shortly. Jeff Degitz also mentioned that Earl Hersh, former board member passed away recently. He was instrumental in the development of Hashawha as well as his involvement in youth sports.
- **Dog Park:** We are receiving new memberships daily and are up to 27 paid members; we are experiencing a “soft” opening, looking at having a grand opening later in Spring.
 - Carolyn Garber inquired about the cleanliness of the stream nearby. Jeff stated that if there is ever an issue with the stream, the health department posts a sign.
- **Carroll County Arts Council 10th Anniversary:** The Arts Center is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year with a special 10 X 10 art show (all exhibits must be 10 X 10 in size); also having a \$10 for 10 fundraising campaign – see www.carrollcountyartscouncil.org for more info
- **Farm Museum Recognized:** Maryland Life Magazine’s 300,000 readers have selected the Carroll County Farm Museum as the Free State’s Finest in the category of BEST Historic Attraction, BEST for Family Fun and BEST Museum in the central region of Maryland. In

addition, The Maryland Wine Festival® has been selected by our readers as the Free State's Finest in the category of BEST Festival in the central region of Maryland! This was announced in the March/April issue of magazine

- **More Positive News Coverage:** As a follow up to a discussion at last month's meeting, we are continuing to receive favorable press coverage. In addition to the Farm Museum announcement, there was a front page article this week regarding the importance of volunteers and their efforts in our recreation councils.
- **Upcoming Events:** Saturday March 30, Early Bird Fishing Tournament @ Piney Run; PEEP Show at Arts Center March 28 – April 7, 10 am – 7 pm every day. Jeff Degitz added that some of Carroll County's 4th grade students did a display and appeared on the NBC Saturday evening news in a story about the Peep Show.

BUDGET UPDATE:

- Jeff Degitz shared the recommended Community Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2014-2019.
 - Park Restoration and Tot Lot Replacement lines: Are for aging infrastructure.
 - The Program Open Space figures shown are just an estimate of what we project receiving from the State.
- Jeff also shared that one of our long term goals is to have 85 miles of combined trails. We currently have roughly 33 miles of trails; however there is more available when you add the trail space in other agencies around Carroll County.
 - It was suggested in order to re-visit this subject next meeting that the agencies and trails be researched and listed

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

- **Monocacy River boat launch area:** We will be working in conjunction with Frederick County on this project. Commissioners from both counties have given the go ahead to move forward with this project. POS funds will be used to help fund this endeavor. The next step in moving forward is to set a meeting with the realtor and land owner. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Possible land donation for future park site:** Interest has been communicated regarding a possible donation of land to Carroll County Recreation and Parks in the South Carroll area. As communication between involved parties continues, updated information will be presented.

PARK LEGACY FUND DISCUSSION: PLANNED GIVING

Jeff Degitz shared that people currently give to the Park Legacy Fund in several ways. They donate through contributions related to projects such as the Bennett Cerf Dog Park, Leister Park Disc Golf Course, or in honor/memory of someone close to them. What we have not pursued as of yet is planned future giving. We currently have 11,000+ volunteers in the county. The question is; How do we reach those that have been touched by the Parks?

Possible Ideas discussed:

- Send out donation information in a monthly letter or/and include in the Annual Report
- Add to giving options; Consider leaving a legacy to Carroll County Recreation and Parks
- Add a giving link to Recreation Council websites
- Collect information from other counties to compare what they do for donations
- Add a donation flyer to tax bills
- Work with local funeral homes to add Carroll County Recreation and Parks as a donation option

Jeff asked that all think about possible options and the discussion will continue next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Brad Knatz, seconded by Jim Rodriguez, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff R. Degitz

Jeff R. Degitz, Administrator

Candy M. Sharrer

Candy M. Sharrer, Secretary