

**Association of Councils Agenda**  
**March 21, 2016**  
**Bourne Building – Conference Room**  
**Council Website:** [Reccouncilsoffrederick.org](http://Reccouncilsoffrederick.org)

**Councils in Attendance:** Dawne Howard (Nature Council); John Faith (Brunswick); Amanda Venable (RHMC); Mark Raithel (BCRC); Joe Brkovich (BCRC); Randal Cole (Guest from FCA); Sandy Burr (Nature Council); Beth Sanders (Brunswick); Jolene Spielman (Libertytown); Eric Appel (FCDPR); Eric Scholz (URC); Wendell Miley (WNMRC); Jeremy Kortright (FCDPR).  
Councils not present: Thurmont, Middletown, Carroll Manor, Senior.

President Eric Scholz kicked off the meeting at 7:02 pm and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. Also everyone was asked to sign in.

Eric asked for an approval of the December minutes: Mark Raithel made a motion and Beth Sanders seconded the motion.

Mark Raithel noted the treasurer's report has not changed since last meeting, with no transactions occurring. The balance remains 536.69.

**Old Business:**

- Shelter Reservations: Jeremy Kortright reminded the councils that they can reserve shelters in parks 13 months prior year round. The new policy that allows them to do this went into effect December 1<sup>st</sup> for Recreation Councils. Eric also noted that councils do get "4" free shelter reservations free per year.
- Return to Play form for Concussions: Jeremy noted that the County has updated the Recreation council's website to include a "return to play" form that is used when a concussion is identified and the athlete wants to return to the practice or games. Councils are expected to comply and use this form for every known concussion.
- Alcohol as part of Council Programming: At our December meeting the councils were asked to take the topic of including Alcohol as part of a councils programming back to their perspective meetings and to come to this meeting with the results from their discussions. Jeremy asked if we could go around the room and get information regarding the status from each council. The group broke the category of using alcohol into

two categories, “part of programming” and “as a fundraiser”. The results are below:

<b>Using Alcohol as Part of a recreation Council program/Activity:</b>	
Ballenger Creek Rec Council	Not in Favor
Urbana Recreation Council	Not in Favor
Brunswick Recreation Council	Not in Favor
Libertytown Recreation Council	Not in Favor
Woodsboro New Midway	Not in Favor
Nature Council	Not in Favor
Rose Hill Museum Council	In Favor
Senior Recreation Council	Not Present
Middletown Recreation Council	Not Present
Thurmont Area Recreation Council	Not Present
Carroll Manor Recreation Council	Not Present

<b>Using Alcohol as a Fundraiser:</b>	
Ballenger Creek Rec Council	In Favor
Urbana Recreation Council	In Favor
Brunswick Recreation Council	In Favor
Libertytown Recreation Council	In Favor
Woodsboro New Midway	Not in Favor
Nature Council	In Favor
Rose Hill Museum Council	In Favor
Senior Recreation Council	Not Present
Middletown Recreation Council	Not Present
Thurmont Area Recreation Council	Not Present
Carroll Manor Recreation Council	Not Present

Jeremy thanked all the councils for their feedback and reminded all of them that ultimately this will be a “county” level decision when approving use of facilities.

**New Business:**

1. FCA Opportunity: Randy Cole, guest presenter from FCA, shared some information about an upcoming Sports Camp that FCA is putting on in

the Frederick Area called "Rise". He showed a short video. There were some questions regarding if the camp was sports specific.

2. Eric Scholz opened up the group for a discussion about how to communicate issues to the County in regards to coaching, players, facilities, or parent issues. Jeremy noted the council website has a new "incident" report button that councils can utilize to communicate issues from their phone. Jeremy also noted to be very thorough with documenting any situation with your council. Eric and Mark both discussed personal situations where basketball games got out of hand over the seasons and there was some discussion about that. Jeremy noted that setting the expectations with coaches from the beginning is critical. Having each one sign off on codes of conduct and essentially creating a culture that is proactive positive rather than reactive is what each council should do.
3. Eric then also brought up to the group a discussion regarding resources (facilities, equipment) that councils have available to them or use regularly. The councils reviewed some of their facility needs and the reality that most groups are limited to elementary and middle school gymnasiums.
4. New Program Ideas/Initiatives: Eric started a group discussion about new program ideas that councils are considering or working on in the future. A couple councils are working on a spring basketball league. Wendell Miley from WNMRC noted that he would like to see some "bike races" as an annual event. Possibly working together with other councils to start an inter-county program. Ballenger's Joe Brkovich noted that there isn't a soccer program for U16 and he would like to start one. Eric Appel noted that this could be a possibility in the future as a County program.
5. Jeremy reminded the councils to utilize the Electronic Volunteer Applications located on the website so that they can keep a digital copy of everyone who is a part of their council. There were a few suggestions to improve the application and Jeremy noted that he would have that done before the end of the month.
6. Jeremy reminded the group that the Community Grant 2016 Program: <http://recreater.com/322/Community-Grant-Program>: would be available on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He encouraged councils to the information on the

website to see if their project would qualify. Council member can also call Bob Hicks at 301-600-6816 for more information.