

Association Of Recreation Councils Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 06, 2019 6:00 pm @ Bourne Building, Parks and Rec Main Office

- Call to Order by Jason Cross, at 6:10 pm.
- **In Attendance:** John Campbell (BCRC/V.P.); Mary Bellamy (BARC), Regine Schwab & Susan Janssen (SRC); Pam Dietrick (MRC/Treasurer); Trina Belote (CMRC); Dana Collingwood (FCNC); Loretta Kolb (LRC); Jason Cross (URC/Pres.); Amanda Venable (RHM); Melissa Thomas (CRC); Wendell Miley (WNMRC); Eric Appel (FCP&R/Secretary)
- **Introduction of Officers and attendees**
Round-table introductions took place.
President – Jason Cross (URC)
Vice Pres. – John Campbell (BCRC)
Treasurer – Pam Dietrick (MRC)
Secretary - *E. Appel (FCP&R) serves as non-voting Secretary
- **Approval of Previous Minutes:** July 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Pam Dietrick stated that the balance remains the same at \$536.69 with no transactions in the past year.
- **Background Screening Policy Discussion**
The screening policy discussion was started again in order to find out the thoughts from each council's independent discussion at their individual monthly meetings. The primary differences and updates were highlighted and copies of both the current policy and the proposed policy were made available.
Eric Appel explained the primary reasons for the need for an updated and potentially revised policy.
 1. Eric and FCP&R is recommending the need for a more thorough check for all volunteers with care & custody of children because the current checks only search the MD Judiciary Case Search.
 2. The current policy states that volunteer names can be hand-written on paper and handed in to the FCP&R Liaison. Eric informed they should all be going through the electronic waiver/acknowledgement form in order for the applicant to sign-off on the background screening acknowledgment and volunteer waiver, also to verify their own personal information.
 3. There were updates from FCG-HR and FCG-Legal Departments regarding COMAR standards and language.
 4. The advanced background check option with the company KROLL is no longer valid. A new advanced background check option needs to replace KROLL.

The discussion continued and a roundtable related to each council' specific discussions at their independent meetings:

- MRC – no care and custody of children at this time
- WNMRC – using Protect Youth Sports for volunteer sport coach BG screenings

- SRC – no care and custody of children at this time
- BARC – no care and custody of children at this time
- CRC – softball coaches, Melissa stated she does her own Sex Offender registry check on all coaches because some are from PA
- Museum – no BG Screening taking place, some volunteers are FCP&R Staff that have gone through fingerprinting
- CMRC – understood the need, wants to keep cost down, uses Sports Engine/NCSI already for some screenings
- Nature – no care and custody of children at this time
- LRC – current policy satisfies the number of coaches
- BCRC – wants to keep the costs down
- URC – wants to keep costs down and not manage the process

Discussion continued with a desire for any revised policy to still contain the “lived in MD for 10yr” stipulation for the advanced check.

Eric informed that FCP&R Staff can and will continue to provide the BG Screening results to the Council representatives however the FCP&R Staff are not contacting the volunteers. That is the responsibility of each council to manage. Councils are separate entities. FCP&R is only advisement and liaison to the county. Eric informed if at some point the FCG HR no longer offers the MD Case Search check then this would affect any policy that contains that as part of the process.

Eric will put together an email with all information and proposals to each Council President to review, including those councils that do not currently run BG Screenings. It may be necessary for a vote to take place in order to move forward. The current policy is still in effect until further action by the Association of Councils.

▪ **County Report**

- 1) Eric reminded the group to begin submitting winter season volunteer applications online so they can be checked and results received prior to volunteering.
- 2) Eric reminded the group of the importance of Accident/Incident reporting and that the electronic version is available on the Rec Council webpage. Once submitted it gets routed to FCP&R and FCG-Risk Management Dept.
- 3) Eric informed the group of the Athletic Field & Tournament Scheduling Meeting at the Bourne building on Dec 3 at 6:30pm.
- 4) Rec Council Contact Lists were passed around to be updated and return to Eric

▪ **Council Reports**

- **Ballenger Creek** – John Campbell informed the group of the issues with BCRCs rec basketball program
- **Brunswick** – Mary Bellamy informed the group of the Haunted Hayride that took part in Brunswick’s Downtown Halloween, Veteran’s Parade and Freezin for a Reason events.
- **Carroll Manor** – Trina Belote reported on registration opening for basketball and wrestling programs. Some kids were placed with indoor soccer. CMRC has a Dixie Chopper mower for sale.
- **Catoclin** – Melissa Thomas reported that fall ball had ended and registration for spring programs starts on January 1.
- **Frederick Co. Nature** – Dana Collingwood reported on the Nature Council booth at the Great Frederick Fair and that the council came in contact with approx. 3,000 visitors. The Park After Dark event raised \$1,500. Dear Santa event at Fountain Rock Park on Dec 8 from

1:00-4:00pm. Volunteer Appreciation upcoming at Catoctin Creek Nature Center and the Master Naturalists graduates.

- **Libertytown** – Loretta Kolb reported that LRC Pres. and V.P. positions are open. LRC has 20-22 teams for basketball.
- **Middletown** - Pam Dietrick gave a summary of the Color Me Autumn event in October and Christmas in the Valley upcoming. Pam requested that Eric check on MRC's Special Requests.
- **Rose Hill** - Amanda Venable reported on the museum artifacts collection and the WWII Veterans project that is underway. She informed the group of the fundraising initiative to help with school field trips to the Museum
- **Senior** – Regine Schwab and Susan Janssen reported on the SRC Holiday party in December and that SRC is up to 400 members. They informed of the updated newsletter and on the article that was in Frederick Magazine showcasing the SRC in 8 pages.
- **Urbana** – Jason Cross reported that basketball and wrestling registration is open, football ending. FCP&R Rec Center gyms are helping with loss of space due to LOUYAA taking time at Urbana Middle.
- **Woodsboro-New Midway** – Wendell Miley reported WNMR Chas 2 basketball teams this year and on the fall softball program. Soccer is running now in the spring and fall seasons.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

NOTE - Next Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday March 24th, 2020 at 6:00pm**. Location - TBD