

Association Of Recreation Councils Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 15, 2023, 6:00 pm at Bourne Bldg, Training Room

<https://www.reccouncilsoffrederick.org/>

Melissa Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

In Attendance:

Melissa Thomas (CRC/President); John Campbell (BCRC/Treasurer); Dana Collingwood (FCNC); Greg Rooney (CMRC); Joe Amick (CMRC); Sally Selby (SRC); Jason Cross (URC/VP); Eric Appel (FCP&R/Secretary, non-voting); Tommi-Leigh Starick (FCPR/non-voting); Matt Sweadner (LASA/non-voting); Joy Sweadner (LASA/non-voting); JoAnn Howell (WNMRC); Pam Dietrick (MRC)

Absent:

BARC, Museum,

- I. Introduction of Association Officers & Attendees/Council Representatives - around the room intros**
- II. President/V.P. Report:**
 - Minutes from July 2023
 - Edits: None
 - Motion** to approve minutes – Greg Rooney
 - **Seconded** by John Campbell
 - **Approved** by All
- III. Treasurer Report:**
 - Still \$536.69
 - Tax return was file back in July e-file
- IV. Secretary Report:**
 - Council Contact List – please get any changes to Tommi-Leigh. It was noted that some liaisons positions will be changing. As FCPR staffing changes are being made, the liaison positions may change again.
 - Council Information Table -
Please get any changes regarding your constitution and bylaws to Tommi-Leigh so that the table can be adjusted.
Sone notations were made that members didn't realize what was in their own constitution and bylaws. Members were advised to ensure that they know what is in their constitution and bylaws and make sure they are following them.
Any changes to their constitution and bylaws must be submitted to FCPR for approval.
 - Recreation Councils were asked to ensure that they are getting their meeting minutes to their FCPR Liaison.
- V. County Report**

- Field Reservations - 2024 Documents on table. Email to follow the week of November 20th, prior to Thanksgiving.
- Rec Center Reservations – First come, first serve availability.
- Any Support Needed? -
Check into water accessibility at Chuck Foreman field.

VI. **New Business:**

- **Constitution and Bylaws update:**

Portions missing from the only signed copy on file.

Melissa Thomas noted that it was Catoctin Recreation Council signatures on the FCARC constitution and bylaws on file.

Portions contradicting between by laws and constitution

Sec needs separate – more separate b/w county and recreation councils, Eric Appel would step in to a liaison position rather than a board position.

Must have 15 days to view prior to voting on it. Copies will be emailed out with minutes in preparation for March Meeting.

Will vote on it in March Meeting

Sec would need to be nominated and voted in. Eric will remain until the position is filled.

- **Libertytown Area Sports Association Representatives – Open Discussion**

- Up and running, softball season completed in the fall, up and running with basketball
- Wishes to join the association of recreation councils (documents submitted)
- Have held two Community meetings
- Greg Rooney – Asked if there was an entirely new board? Are any of you from old board members? Response – There are not any remaining former LRC board members that are board members for the new Libertytown Area group.
- LASA picking up where LRC left off in serving the Libertytown Area
- LASA is working to win back parent trust and trust of those that they are reserving facilities from (i.e. FCPS)
- 100 kids registered for basketball
- 2 softball teams fall 2023
 - **Motion** we proceed with recommendation to Parks & Recreation Commission to accept LASA as a recreation council – Jason Cross
 - **Seconded** by Joe Amick
 - **Approved** by All
- **Eric will write an official memo to be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission**

VII. **Round-Table:**

- **Ballenger Creek – basketball has started, rec ball, soccer wasn't big, have issues with getting kids to participate, got a new soccer commissioner going forward**
- **Brunswick Area – absent**
- **CMRC – things are good
new soccer commissioner has done a great job, Doug Beatty**

- **Catoctin Area** – fall ball ended, everything great, it will be quiet for a few months
- **Middletown** – color me autumn, went well considering weather and competing event, turned in all of the events for next year and still waiting on approvals for events. Egg hunt is the next event. Still need to get insurance for the beer gardens. Eric will meet with Pam to get things moving on the approval process.
Starting a new event – yard sale event for Middletown community.
Marbles champion at Wildwood NJ/ marble volunteers did get all their background checks
- **Museum** – Absent
- **Nature** – successful plant sale, Maryland master naturalist program will graduate 11 adults later
free nature online classes going well, volunteer recognition in January
- **Senior** – doing great, active bike season, hikes and exercise class going well
30th anniversary coming up
- **Urbana** – end of fall season, most ended, but football has a few playoffs
New improvements at Campus drive have been mostly completed.
Elections upcoming for those who are stepping down.
Nomination in Nov/Dec, Elections in Jan, will be advertising to draw in new people. (VP & Pres)
Set up at last meeting College Scholarships to be offered for URC kid that play sports through high school, each sport will donate part of registration toward it.
- **Woodsboro/New Midway** – fall baseball / softball completed,
There is now a skate park encroaching on their ball fields, at Woodsboro park, matt sweadner is a Woodsboro coach, GVAA takes all the softball
Basketball registrations have started,
GVAA and LOUYAA make it very difficult to get players, facilities, coaches
FCPS has not been helpful
Struggling to compete vs. larger sports organization.

VIII. Adjournment:

- **Motion** to adjourn Jason Cross
- **Seconded** – by Dana Collingwood
- **Meeting Adjourned at 7:42**

NOTE - Next Meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday March 27, 2024, at 6:00pm.**