



Maryland Recreation and Parks Association  
Executive Board Meeting

Green Farm Maintenance Facility, MC

November 21, 2019, 1pm



Attendance: Carla Benavides, Jake Chesnutt, Holly Harden, Terri Hilton, Kelly Ketzenberger, Carolyn Ryan, Karen Warnick, Nick Johnson, John Nissel,

Guest: Corey Hearn Smith

Staff: Chuck Montrie, Adrienne Varieur

- I. Call to Order: 1:10 pm
- II. Adoption of Agenda: 1<sup>st</sup> Carolyn, 2<sup>nd</sup> John, Agenda Adopted
- III. Executive Director and Office Report
  - a. Duane put in her resignation and is no longer working with MRPA, Armeana has taken on additional hours.
  - b. Chuck has been doing some research on a quarterly publication, there are four companies that work with associations. The businesses sell adds, and there is no cost to the association to do a quarterly publication. Chuck will bring a few samples to the next board meeting.
  - c. Researching e-learning software, particularly a company that has a connection with TM. We would be able to host live or on demand training for around \$6000 a year.
  - d. MRPA (and Baltimore City) will profit \$20,000 from the NRPA conference.
  - e. Closing out the ticket program, to date, Baltimore City owes \$168,000 in ticket sales.
  - f. Will follow up on progress made to the online directory, layout is done, but this function will need to move to Armeana for follow-up.
- IV. Officer Reports
  - a. President:
    - i. Held budget meetings with Training, Conference and PARC, need to reschedule TR and RALS.
    - ii. Worked with scholarship committee to sponsor and scholarship for smaller trainings and General Membership Meeting.
  - b. President Elect:
    - i. Made \$13,000 in one day on the Equipment Showcase. – John recognized Cliff Driver for his efforts.
    - ii. Fall General Membership meeting went well, Jonte Hall was an excellent speaker and the meeting was well attended.
  - c. Past President:
    - i. A full slate of officers is needed prior to the Winter General Membership meeting. Nominations are open, and a few nominations have been received. Currently we have one person for all positions, accept Treasurer Elect.
    - ii. Will continue with testimonials on the benefits of running for office.
    - iii. Bio's on all candidates running for the board are due.

- d. Vice President
    - i. Working on logistics for the Winter General Membership meeting at the **Audubon Naturalist Society Headquarters Woodend Sanctuary**. Contract has been signed for the location. This is a unique historic property with 40 acres in the middle of Chevy Chase.
  - e. Treasurer
    - i. Doing research on sponsorships and sponsorship packets. Chuck is collecting sponsorship packets from other agencies.
  - f. Treasurer Elect
    - i. Worked on a proposal for membership fee increases, reviewed fees from all surrounding agencies. See chart that Karen developed.
  - g. TR Branch
    - i. Last meeting was held at Wheaton Community Center and Library.
    - ii. Office and Chair Elect positions are filled for next year.
    - iii. Working on an ADA training for the Spring – based on Facility Inspections.
  - h. PARC Branch
    - i. Held a tour on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
    - ii. February 27<sup>th</sup> – The branch is planning a training on Falconry.
  - i. RALS
    - i. December 13<sup>th</sup> is the joint branch holiday social.
    - ii. Finalizing baseball game details.
- V. Old Business
- a. Discussion on Award Naming – Award committee asked the Board to review their proposal on Award naming.
    - i. Moved Award Proposal to discussion – Kelly, 1<sup>st</sup>, Nick, 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - ii. Discussion - Moving forward, to not name any other award, unless there was a financial contribution. Two awards are named after people, Connie Romanello and Jack Hewitt's award. The problem discussed is that with these awards most of the newer membership does not know either person, who they were, or what they did for the field. Discussion continued to stop offering the awards and rename them.
    - iii. Motion to accept and adopt the recommendation of the awards committee. John 1<sup>st</sup>, Jake 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vote 4, YES, and 5, NO. Motion failed.
    - iv. Motion proposed with change: Carla 1<sup>st</sup>, Nick 2<sup>nd</sup> – To take away the name of the award and in bed the name in the body of the description of the award, with no future awards to be named after someone, effective May 2020. All were in favor.
- VI. New Business
- a. Award Committee led a discussion on announcing the awards ahead of time for the showcase awards.
    - i. The goal would be to sell tables, not tickets.
    - ii. Letter would go to the Department head encouraging their award winners to attend. This will need to be flushed out, so the award winners are able to attend.

- iii. Other awards such as Writing, Landscape, or Md. My Maryland would get invitations.

VII. Adjournment

- a. Carla – motion to adjourn
- b. John- 2<sup>nd</sup>
- c. Passed; adjourned @ 2:59 pm