



## **2017-2018 MRPA Board & Council Second Quarter Report: Fall 2017**

### **President**

**Tim Chesnutt**

The Board has continued to study and develop a framework for the roll out of the Strategic Plan. The work includes identifying the Association's strengths, opportunities, aspirations (desired results), and specific actions. Additional actions include: prioritizing action items, rolling out the strategic plan to the membership, and identifying key stakeholders. The Fall membership meeting is the initial presentation and advancement of the plan.

### **Past President**

**Beahta Davis**

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Past Presidents/Directors meeting a success. The meeting was held on November 2nd and was well received. US Lacrosse provided four speakers who spoke about various aspects of the organization. Lunch was followed by a one hour game of lacrosse. Kudos to the 18 brave MRPA members who stayed to play.

MRPA is still accepting nominations for Board positions. Please submit your nominations to the MRPA office. We have at least one candidate for each Board position. If you are a current candidate for a Board office, please remember to email me your short bio.

### **President Elect**

**Carolyn Ryan**

- Worked with Wanda Ramos to set up the Fall General Membership Meeting, which will be held on November 15, 2017 at the College Park Aviation Museum. Maureen Dougherty will lead presentation on writing your personal strategic plan. Then breaking into small groups to discuss current MRPA Strategic Plan.
- Working with Wanda and Jen Jennings to set up the Winter General Membership Meeting, which is scheduled for January 24, 2018 at Annapolis Recreation and Parks, Pip Moyer Recreation Center, Hilltop Lane, Annapolis. We are working on a keynote speaker for that meeting.

### **Vice President**

**Wanda Ramos**

- Working with Carolyn and Jen Jennings to set up the Winter General Membership Meeting, which is scheduled for January 24, 2018 at Annapolis Recreation and Parks, Pip Moyer Recreation Center, Hilltop Lane, Annapolis. We are working on a keynote speaker for that meeting.

**Secretary**  
**Corey Smith**

In order to save trees, minutes from past Executive Board and Council meetings are available upon request. Please contact Corey Smith at [coreyh.smith@pgparks.com](mailto:coreyh.smith@pgparks.com) if you would like copies of the minutes.

**PARC Branch**  
**Steve McCoy, Chair**

The PARC Branch held their fall meeting and workshop at the University of Maryland on October 23. Ten Branch members were in attendance, including a few new faces. We spent the day learning about and touring many of the sustainability features of the College Park campus. It was an enlightening and educational day. Kudos to Branch At-Large Member Buffy Kirby for arranging for this workshop.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is planned for December 7, at which time we will discuss the findings of the General Membership Meeting and determine our strategy for implementation for the remainder of the year and into 2018.

The legal challenge to the Tree Huggers logo/trademark continues. I spoke with PARC Foundation President Sandi Trent about the current (and frequent) use of the logo. She worked with the Foundation to pay the \$2,500 in legal fees to counter the challenge. Chuck will likely have more information to share on this front.

**RALS Branch**  
**Alexandria Wilson, Chair**

The Recreation and Leisure Services (RALS) Branch last met on November 10th at the Greenbelt Fitness and Aquatic Center. RALS is working to continue its mission to provide recreation and leisure services to the membership, provide opportunities for networking and socialization, and preparing to provide fulfilling workshops and training opportunities to aid the membership.

Recently co-hosted the 28th Annual Cultural Arts Showcase at the Howard County Center for the Arts. Lower attendance than desired, but more hopeful in moving the Showcase to the fall. Working to set a date now for next year's Showcase.

**Next Meetings:**

All meetings begin at 2PM

Friday, December 15th at Severna Park Lanes

Friday, January 12th at Bauer Drive Community Center in Montgomery County

Friday, February 9th – Location TBD

**Next Outings:**

Friday, December 15th at Severna Park Lanes

840 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, MD

Bowling will begin at 3PM after our December RALS Meeting beginning at 2PM

**Next Workshop:**

Wednesday, November 29th at Vollmer Center at the Cylburn Arboretum in Baltimore

Youth Program Quality Assessment Work Methods Series:

Part 1: Active Learning

Part 2: Ask, Listen, Encourage

10 – 3 PM

\$70/ per – Career Staff Member

\$45/ per – Student & Intermittent Staff Member

\*Includes the text books (2x) & Lunch

Wednesday, December 13th at Beltsville Community Center in Prince George's County

Youth Program Quality Assessment Work Methods Series:

Part 1: Building Community

Part 2: Cooperative Learning

10 – 3 PM

\$70/ per – Career Staff Member

\$45/ per – Student & Intermittent Staff Member

\*Includes the text books (2x) & Lunch

Friday, January 19th at Pip Moyer Recreation Center in Annapolis

Youth Program Quality Assessment Work Methods Series:

Part 1: Youth Voice

Part 2: Planning & Reflection

10 – 3 PM

\$70/ per – Career Staff Member

\$45/ per – Student & Intermittent Staff Member

\*Includes the text books (2x) & Lunch

New Items on the Horizon:

- RALS is also looking to rebrand the branch with a new logo. Hoping to have new design by February 1st.
- In an effort to continuously foster opportunities for networking, RALS will be planning a few family friendly Recursions for the members. The goal is to give members opportunities to actively engage in recreational activities while networking with members of other departments and hopefully rejuvenate an interest in engaging more actively with RALS and MRPA as a whole.

### **TR Branch**

**Melissa Wyman, Chair**

- TR Branch had a meeting in August at Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks from 11am-1pm.
- We made a total of \$543 from the 50/50 Raffle this year at the Summer General Membership. We were fortunate enough that a wonderful MRPA member donated his winnings to the TR branch.
- The TR Branch also made \$390 in proceeds from the sales of decals and MRPA bracelets that went to the Tommy Ross Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- Our next TR Branch meeting will be held on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-3PM at the M-NCPPC Dept. of Parks and Recreation located at 7833 Walker Drive Greenbelt, MD 20770 in Conference Room 2B (Lower Level).

### **Awards Committee**

**Elisabeth Deal**

The deadline is quickly approaching for entries in the Showcase Marketing and Association Awards: December 8. Entry forms can be found on the MRPA website. Please note that the entry deadline for Awards given at the Annual Conference has been moved to February 1.

The Showcase Marketing Awards Luncheon will be held on March 1 at noon at the Cylburn Arboretum in Baltimore. Look for more details soon.

### **Conference Committee**

**Terri Hilton and Duncan Mullis**

- Conference Dates-April 10-12th, 2018
- Location-Princess Royale Hotel
- Neelay Bhaat will be the conference keynote speaker. (Topic TBA)  
Neelay works for Pros Consulting and is a Ted x speaker, see link below.  
<http://www.letssayhello.com/bolo-at-tedx.php>
- Key updates this quarter:
  - The Conference save the date is on the MRPA website, and the Conference Co-Chair will be making a Conference announcement at the General Membership Meeting, on 11/15/2017.
  - The Exhibition Committee reported that they are starting to work on reaching out to the 2017 vendors, and select potential 2018 vendors who will complement the 2017 list. The goal for the 2018 Conference is to increase the number of vendors, and to increase foot-traffic in the area by having enticing events in the exhibit space. The 2018 Exhibitor Brochure is now being put together so it can be sent to the 2017 vendors, and potential 2018 vendor additions.
  - The Banquet Committee is reviewing the current location for the Banquet due to some light and sound challenges at the 2017 Conference. This will be discussed at the next Banquet Committee meeting on 11/13. Current concepts include: a room change to the Palmetto rooms, which will mean some training modifications to enable the room to be available, and other logistics that need to be ironed out (cost/time for additional setup, etc.); or keeping the 2017 location and doing a site visit to Ocean City (1/13) to see how other users overcome the location barriers.
  - General Conference Communication: The Conference Committee is considering event notification during the conference to remind participants of events and activities that are occurring, and important updates (e.g. changes in schedule). Discussion between social media, text alerts or emails are being considered. The Committee is still considering the best format.
  - The Education Committee: The Conference Committee Co-Chair presented to the Executive Board the need for a \$7,000 increase to the Education Committee's expenditure budget to allow for even better speakers at the 2018 Conference. This was approved by the Executive Board at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- Next committee meeting December 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr, in Rockville.
- Question, or to get involved, Email Terri Hilton [thilton@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:thilton@rockvillemd.gov) or Duncan Mullis at [dmullis@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:dmullis@rockvillemd.gov)
- Committee Chairs, Terri Hilton, Duncan Mullis, Arrangements: Kate Gaddis, Banquet: Barbara Lages, Mike Coppersmith, Matt Purkins, Conference HQ: Skip Gormley, Wendy Donley, Education, Jennene Blakely, Dave Goodwin, Jake Chesnutt, Genevieve Jennai, Steve McCoy, Exhibit Hall: Romekia Dick, Sheryl Roff, Golf Tournament: Phil Bryan, Professional Certification: Sharon Norcio, Bob Hicks, Socials: Leigh Ann Eckenrode, Alexandria Wilson, Student Mentor: Gloria Murphy, Technical Support: Stephen Parks, Welcome Wagon: Di Quynn-Reno

## **Ritch Stevenson Leadership Institute (formerly MRPA Leadership Institute)**

**MaryBeth Dugan, Chair**

A HUGE shout out and thank you to our awesome planning committee:

Marybeth Dugan	Maureen Dougherty	Holly Harden, marketing
Debbly Huffman	Di Quynn-Reno	Christi Bishop, CEU Coordinator
Kathy Garrity	Chuck Montrie	

“CONNECTING THE D.O.T.S.”  
(Dynamic, Out-of-office, Training, Self-improvement)

- The 2018 Leadership Institute is on a roll! We had our kick off retreat on Wednesday, September 6 and Thursday, September 7, 2017 at Rockwood Manor in Potomac. Twenty very excited professionals from across the state were greeted by enthusiastic program committee members welcoming them to the program! Maureen Dougherty provided excellent, interactive, very popular training sessions in Strength Finders and Conducting Effective meetings; John Nissel gave an enthusiastic presentation on professional growth and Kathy Garrity was awesome in her team building and debriefing sessions which really got the participants pumped up and excited. The participants bonded immediately and we received great feedback from the group. **Huge thanks to Montgomery Parks, the City of Takoma Park and Maureen Dougherty for their in-kind services and donations to the program.**
- We've started our monthly Thursday trainings which are held the second Thursdays of the month. The first session was held at Huntington Community Center in Bowie where Barbara Heller, founder of Heller and Heller Consulting, LLC presented very popular sessions:

Creating a Way Cool Organization  
Leadership: Now and for the Next Generation  
Creating Organizational Innovation

- The November 9<sup>th</sup> session was held at Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Administration Building (PRA) in Riverdale where Darryl Wyles spoke about Dynamic Presentations and Darin Conforti presented on Budgeting for Leaders. Both were excellent with great feedback from the class! Thanks to Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation for the use of their buildings and to our fabulous speakers!
- The LI participants are meeting in their assigned groups, where they will be researching and presenting their chosen leadership and trends topics to a panel of judges in March and in April they will be presenting those same topics at the annual conference in Ocean City!
- Thanks to Christi Bishop for coordinating all the CEUs for the program and keeping on top of the process!
- Kathy, Debby and Di continue to be outstanding and supportive in all aspects of the program! Thanks all!
- Holly Harden is so creative in documenting and sharing stories about LI throughout the year so stay tuned for more exciting news in the future....

## **Marketing Communications Committee**

**Holly Harden, Chair**

**Goal: Increase communication and engagement with Association members**

- Met with MRPA staff members to review progress and next steps for Weekly Update, website & marketing support to Training, Awards, Conference and Scholarship committees.
- Worked with Conference Education Committee on "Show What You Know" promotional campaign to recruit presenters for conference and workshops
- Developed timeline and calendar for marketing MRPA & Branch training
- Updated MRPA Training Calendar
- Created Maintenance & Facilities Training Calendar
- Created Flyers for TR Branch, Heavy Equipment Expo & Train the Trainer
- Researched new banner

**Future steps for this year include**

- Developing year long time line for MRPA promotion and communication

- Promotion of MRPA Strategic Plan

## **Professional Certification Board (PCB)**

### **Bob Hicks, Chair**

Sharon Norcio, CTRS

Skip Gormley, CPRP

Di Quynn-Reno, CPRP

The Professional Certification Board (PCB) has/will be working on the following items:

1. Reviewed and approved CEUs for the following educational sessions during this quarter:
  - a. 5 Languages of Appreciation – Approved for .4 CEUs
  - b. Leading with Your Strengths – Approved for .175 CEUs
  - c. Meeting Management & Facilitation Skills – Approved for .15 CEUs
  - d. Creating Organizational Innovation – Approved for .2 CEUs
  - e. Leadership Now and for the Next Generation – Approved for .15 CEUs
  - f. Creating a Way Cool Organization – Approved for .15 CEUs
  - g. Connecting to Your Profession: How to be a CAPRA Agency Visitor Training and Focus on Professionalism – Approved for .5 CEUs
  - h. Disability Awareness & Inclusion Services Education/Workshop Session – Approved for .15 CEUs
  - i. Speak Up and Stand Out: Tips to Take Your Presentation Skills to the Next Level – Approved for .2 CEUs
  - j. What do you do when you think no one is looking? Personal Leadership and Professional Ethics – Approved for .25 CEUs
  - k. Budgeting for Leaders – Approved for .3 CEUs)
2. Pending CEU application: YPQA Work Methods Series: Active Learning & Ask, Listen, Encourage Program

PCB Goals for 2017-2018

1. Continue to review and comment on CEU applications for workshops and other educational sessions sponsored by MRPA.
2. Promote Professional Certification with MRPA membership.

Any questions regarding Professional Certification or CEU's for MRPA sponsored Workshops, please call Bob Hicks at 301-600-6816 or email at rhicks@frederickcountymd.gov.

## **Resource Development Committee**

### **Amy Vagnoni, Chair**

- Lottery
- Golf Tournaments
- Created a sponsorship package and letter.
- Donate button on the website to help fund scholarships.
- Seeking sponsorship ideas from the members.

### **Submitted by: Phil Bryan**

January Lottery Tickets Sales:

A chance to win every day in January. Win \$50 to \$250 by purchasing a lottery ticket for just \$5.00. Winning ticket based on the 3 digit evening draw of the MD Lottery. Tickets can be purchased through a number of MRPA members, MRPA office, or contacting Phil Bryan at 410.313.1668.

## **Scholarship Committee**

### **Jennifer Jennings, Chair**

There are scholarships still available for year 2017, please contact Jennifer Jennings [jmjennings@annapolis.gov](mailto:jmjennings@annapolis.gov) for more details.

Modell's Fund Raiser for Scholarship Fund has been extended until December 26, 2017. Enjoy a 15% discount of all purchases from now until December 26th. You receive a 15% a discount and MRPA receives 5% of the sales to support the scholarship fund. Please check the MRPA newsletter and website for the coupon. Feel free to share on social media with family and friends!

## Sponsorships Committee

**Matt Purkins, Chair**

- Chuck Montrie and I met with Jen Runkles from Express Marketing Design to discuss the Directory becoming an online publication and how we can still use this as a sponsorship opportunity both through online sales of advertising and sponsorships of the guide.
- Working towards a decision to either have the conference brochure pick up the old directory ads or if the online directory could be a potential revenue addition.

## Training and Education

**Laura Wetherald, Chair**

**Holly Harden, Share Report**

These trainings are for supervisory staff as well as staff interested in professional growth. These trainings are offered to HCRP FT Staff as well as professionals outside of the Agency through the MRPA (Supervisor approval must be given for staff to attend trainings; PTB and contingent staff can attend trainings only if permission is given by supervisor and Laura Wetherald). These trainings will provide continuing education credits (ceu's) to staff who have professional certifications. These trainings are coordinated by Laura Wetherald, CPRP, Bureau Chief of Recreation and Karen Potter, Administrative Supervisor, Administrative Services Bureau. They will be responsible for the following:

- Contacting Speakers and assisting them with CEU application (if applicable).
- Create surveys to be sent out to participants after every training and analysis is prepared and stored for future planning.
- Send invoice, survey results and attendance rosters to MRPA after training has taken place.
- Directors Summit is back on and will be held at Wye River Conference Center in February 2018. A survey was conducted to obtain a head count of interested attendees. (Updated Program info attached)
- MNCPPC Training Supervisor, part of our MRPA Training team is partnering 1-2 trainings in the winter spring. These will be confirmed at the next meeting in December.
- Article Writing on MRPA Training to be provided to MRPA office in an upcoming newsletter.
- **TRAININGS UPDATE- Calendar Update- Flyers Handouts**
  - **Artificial Turf Management** provided by Field Turf and Heather Johannian from HCRP. Details are forthcoming MRPA spots filled and could have had a waiting list of 6.
  - **Benchmarks for Success** – 6-hour training given by LERN instructor, Greg Marsello was held and provided excellent training in program, marketing and administrative benchmarked tools and knowledge.
  - **Sports Programming 101 & 102** – This will be a 2-part training with an option to register for one or both trainings. Sports Programming 101 will take place from 9:00 AM-12:15. Sports Programming 102 will take place from 1:00PM-4:15 PM. A light breakfast will be provided at 8:30 for staff attending the morning session. Staff who attend both will be given lunch (12:15 – 1:00).

- **Effective Facility Management, Programming & Operations** – Facility Tour being created for late Spring.
- **A Crash Course for the First-Time Manager or Supervisor** – 6 hours training by Fred Pryor – Gain all the skills and insights you need to lead with confidence and conviction, including:
  - How to start producing results right away
  - Ways to avoid the problems that sabotage many new supervisors
  - How to get the unvarnished truth about a new employee’s position and performance
  - What it takes to get productivity from people who aren’t used to you being “the boss”
  - How to size up your supervisor – so you can give better support and get more backing in return
  - How to increase your visibility and earn the respect your position deserves
- **Reading the Tells** – .4-hour training–  
 There is room in this session from MRPA. This is the one to PUSH right now!  
 Please spread the word.  
 Reading the Tells give you practical techniques, tools, and strategies for understanding and using non-verbal communication for the highest impact and effectiveness. During this training, you will learn how to:
  - Develop skills in reading non-verbal “tells” both in the workplace and with friends and family members.
  - Recognize the limbic system and its role in non-verbal communication.
  - Dispel the myth of "fight or flight".
  - Recognize the three non-verbal factors associated with "bullying".
  - Identify the most honest part of the body.
  - Detect deception in any situation.
  - Increase positive communication that hits the mark every time.

**No Report for this quarter:**

**Treasurer/Treasurer Elect**

Myra Butler/Jake Chesnutt

**Legislative Committee**

John Byrd, Chair

**Membership Committee**

Emily Lawrence, Chair

**Professional Standards**

Joan Brooks, Chair