



MCPB Item #5
Date: 6/23/22

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 6, 2022

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Michael F. Riley, Director of Parks *MR*
Miti Figueredo, Deputy Director, Administration *MF*
Gary Burnett, Deputy Director, Operations *GB*
Andrew Frank, Division Chief, Park Development Division (PDD) *AF*

FROM: David Tobin, Manager, Public-Private Partnerships, PDD *DT*
David Quintanilla, Park Manager, South Germantown Recreational Park *DQ*

SUBJECT: Maryland Soccer Foundation, Inc., (MSF) SoccerPlex 2021 Annual Report

Staff Recommendation

Staff requests the following action by the Montgomery County Planning Board:

Accept the Maryland Soccer Foundation's 2021 Annual Report as submitted.

Proprietary financial information that is distributed solely to the Planning Board has been reviewed and accepted by the M-NCPPC Secretary-Treasurer.

Background

The MSF has a forty-year lease until 2039 with the M-NCPPC to manage and maintain the Maryland SoccerPlex located within the 646-acre South Germantown Recreational Park (SGRP). Maryland SoccerPlex is the largest Public-Private Partnership with Montgomery Parks that was constructed in 1999 with a project development cost of \$28,081,000 (of which 39% was public funding and 61% private funding). Since 2000, the MSF has invested over \$7 million in general capital improvements, construction of three artificial turf fields and stadium improvements. Today, the Maryland SoccerPlex is a 162-acre soccer facility consisting of 22 soccer fields (including three artificial turf fields with lights), one championship tournament stadium field with stadium seating, and an indoor multi-purpose facility recently renamed the Adventist HealthCare Fieldhouse.

Parks Department capital budget and operating funds that maintain and operate South Germantown Regional Park (SGRP) in its entirety also serve to facilitate the successful operation of Soccerplex by maintaining infrastructure, sharing the use of Parks facilities and equipment, and other critical services. In addition, Parks staff provide special event support, maintain trails and roadways, and support multiple other partnerships and Enterprise facilities located at SGRP.

As part of the MSF's lease agreement terms, the MSF provides the Montgomery County Planning Board with an annual report consisting of the follow information:

- Summary of programmatic benefits and services offered to the public during the year
- Financial statement describing their operating and capital budget expenditures, income and reserve funding management during the year
- Identification of any new initiatives or updates to their business plan
- Information on the Soccer Association of Montgomery County (SAM); and
- Description of community outreach and events during the year.

Staff Assessment of Soccerplex Activity

Despite the many challenges presented by Covid-19, which included the loss of a spring and summer season and a modified fall season - and the revenues normally associated with that activity - Soccerplex continues to be a successful example of the benefits public-private partnerships can provide to the community.

The MSF's business acumen, innovative programming, and ongoing commitment to growing the sport of soccer have created a world class soccer venue that draws more than 1.5 million visitors in a typical year. We continue to enjoy a strong collaborative relationship with MSF and look forward to working with them on new initiatives in the future.

Attached is the Executive Summary of MSF's 2021 Annual Report. MSF Executive Director Matt Libber will present the report to the Planning Board and will be prepared to answer any questions.

MARYLAND SOCCER FOUNDATION

YEAR END REPORTS – 2021



Maryland SoccerPlex

DECEMBER 10, 2021

EXEC SUMMARY

Maryland SoccerPlex
Year End Report
Executive Summary

2021 was a continuation of the very trying year that was 2020. Since Montgomery County was the last to fully open and continued to have restrictions that surrounding jurisdictions did not, we continued to see business leave the county for less restrictive locations. Our recreation leagues operated at about 60% of their 2019 levels. Our camps and clinics were also down from previous years. We were unable to host any tournaments in 2021 until June. One of our largest events, the Potomac Memorial Day Tournament moved to Howard County taking approximately 500 teams with it. We used the time to make updates to the facility as well as update best practices, train staff, and explore new programming options for 2022.

Field Work

Due to limited resources from a down revenue year, staffing challenges, and an unknown future, we halted major field renovation work. We did take the time and lower usage to repair and strengthen the fields through better maintenance practices, longer rest periods, and using better technology to allow for better decision making.

Fieldhouse Updates

No major updates were undertaken in the Fieldhouse during the year due to financial concerns caused by the pandemic. The Commission did approve the Solar Project for a roof installed solar array which will be installed some time in 2022.

Maryland Bobcats

The Maryland Bobcats are a professional men's soccer team, playing in the third tier of professional soccer in the US. This was their first year as a professional organization and they have chosen the SoccerPlex as their home. They began play in the summertime and finished in November. They will play their full home schedule and train at the SoccerPlex beginning in March 2022.

SAM

SAM Soccer operated on a smaller scale in 2021. They operated at about 60% of its normal participation numbers. We modified leagues to allow for smaller teams to stay within

Montgomery County gathering size restrictions in the Spring, before returning to normal setup in the Fall. We did see an uptick in participation in our clinics as parents slowly bring kids back into group activities. Hopefully the vaccination becoming available for kids ages 5 and older will speed up the return to recreational sports.

Red Cross Blood Drives.

The SoccerPlex supported two blood drives for the Red Cross in September due to very low supplies from COVID.

Testing Site

The SoccerPlex worked with Curative to setup a permanent COVID testing site at the SoccerPlex. The testing site was open Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM daily. Once our outdoor season ended, they were able to open for weekend hours in December.

Athletes Unlimited

The SoccerPlex was host the Athletes Unlimited Professional Women's Lacrosse league. The league played all games and practices at the SoccerPlex over 6 weeks. The league is run by the players and is a of a traditional sports league and fantasy sports, where individual players get points not teams. All league games were nationally televised on Fox Sports or CBS Sports.

World Series of Youth Lacrosse

The World Series of Youth Lacrosse is a single age group national tournament series that culminated with the finals at the SoccerPlex. The 4-day event over the 4th of July weekend ended with a Championship game nationally televised on ESPN. Due to the event being cancelled in 2020, tw age groups actually played in the 2021 event and brought teams from around the Country as well as a team representing the Iroquois Nation.

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MSF PB Memo with 2021 Exec Sum Report

Final Audit Report

2022-06-09

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