Resolution Supporting Sunday Hours for Guy Mason Community Recreation Center

Whereas, Guy Mason Community Recreation Center offers programs for every age group for District residents, including ceramic arts, painting, yoga, exercise and language programs;

Whereas, Guy Mason is not open on Sundays;

Whereas, many working people with children or civic responsibilities or other evening obligations do not have free time to attend classes in the evening hours on work nights;

Whereas, many residents cannot take advantage of the full-range of offerings at Guy Mason because the only non-work day it is open is Saturday and only a limited number of classes can be offered on that one day;

Whereas, if Guy Mason were open on Sunday that would present additional opportunities for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to generate revenue not only from classes, but also from renting the community rooms out for parties and other private events;

Whereas, Guy Mason serves as a cooling off center for District residents during hot summers, and also is increasingly central to the activities of Glover Park Village, a volunteer aging-in-place program, services that are restricted by lack of Sunday hours;

Whereas, dozens of people from all over the city use Guy Mason’s outdoor facilities on weekends, including one of the District’s most popular playgrounds, a ballpark used by several softball and baseball leagues, and a new dog park, Guy Mason should to be open on Sundays, since it is the only conveniently located source for water and restrooms;
Whereas, surrounding towns in Maryland and Virginia all have community centers with Sunday hours, as do most major cities including Richmond, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York City, Boston, Chicago and San Francisco.

Therefore, the District of Columbia should provide full recreational opportunities and access on both Saturdays and Sundays.

Be it Resolved that ANC3B calls on the Mayor and the Department of Parks and Recreation to assess the feasibility of a pilot program for Sunday hours at Guy Mason as a model for expansion of Sunday hours to other community recreation centers in the District. We urge the Mayor and DPR to work with our community to start the process for opening appropriate recreation centers on Sundays.

This Resolution was introduced and discussed at a duly announced regularly scheduled meeting of ANC3B on June 13, 2013, at which a quorum was present. It was passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

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Brian A. Cohen, Chairman       Joe Fiorillo, Secretary

June 13, 2013