



MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

MCPB
Item #11
5/24/07

MEMORANDUM

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Mary R. Bradford, Director
Department of Parks

FROM: Terry H. Brooks, Division Chief
Chairman, Public/Private Partnership Committee
Office of the Director of Parks

SUBJECT: Red Wiggler Foundation, Inc. - Annual Public/Private Partnership Report

Staff Recommendation: Discussion

Background:

The Montgomery County Planning Board currently has several public/private partnerships with both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations providing a variety of dynamic and wide range of services, which both enhance the Park System and provide either new or significant services to the park user public. The Planning Board requested that the Department provide the Board with an annual update of all public/private partnerships. This report is the first of a series of future annual partnership project reports.

On January 25, 2002, the Planning Board approved entering into a Public/Private Partnership with the Red Wiggler Foundation, Inc. (a non-profit, 501 (c)(3), organic farming organization) dedicated to provide meaningful employment, training, and mentoring for physically and mentally challenged adults and youth in Montgomery County by managing a working farm that produces locally grown fresh produce in an environmentally sensitive manner.

The Red Wiggler Foundation's Community Farm is a produce framing operation located at Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park in Clarksburg, Maryland.

Staff has requested the Red Wiggler Foundation to provide the Planning Board with an overview of their operations, accomplishments, and public benefits resulting from their programs and operations.

Because of the Planning Board expressed an interest in understanding how private foundations support the development and program activities of various non-profit organizations, staff has also requested that the Red Wiggler Foundation provide the Planning Board with information on: (a) how they work with their Board; (b) set their annual fund raising goals; and (c) achieve their fund raising objectives as well.